AWIO20 FMEE 171220
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

BULLETIN FOR CYCLONIC ACTIVITY AND SIGNIFICANT TROPICAL WEATHER
IN THE SOUTHWEST INDIAN OCEAN

DATE: 17/01/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO20 028/06 and WTIO30 029/06 issued at 06 UTC on Severe Tropical Storm DUDZAI. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin displays a monsoon trough (MT) pattern split into two branches undulating around 10S and extending on each side of severe tropical storm DUDZAI. The first branch extends between 50 and 65E and the second extends east of 75E. Convective activity is weak to moderate on the northern side of the MT.

An overlapping between a Kelvin wave and an equatorial Rossby wave could occur over the eastern part of the basin in the middle of next week, which could temporarily improve convergence within the MT. However, the wave conditions remain rather unfavorable due to a dry phase of the MJO setting in over our basin.

Severe Tropical Storm DUDZAI :
Information at 10 UTC :
Estimated position : 17.9S / 67.7E
Movement : SW, 6kt
Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) : 55 kt
Estimated central pressure : 990 hPa
For further information, please refer to bulletins WTIO20 and WTIO30 issued at 06 UTC and following.

- In the Mozambique Channel : A surge of southerly winds is expected in the southern half of the Mozambique Channel by the middle of next week, which could favor the formation of a low-pressure system. However, the scenario of development of this low pressure area remains isolated among European and American ensemble forecasts and AI models.

The likelihood of the formation of a moderate tropical storm becomes very low from thursday january 22th over the southern part of the Mozambique Channel.

NOTA BENE: The likelihood is an estimate of the chance of genesis of a moderate tropical storm over the basin within the next five days:

Very low: less than 10% Moderate: 30% to 60% Very high: over 90%
Low: 10% to 30% High: 60% to 90%

The Southwestern Indian ocean basin extends from the Equator to 40S and from the african coastlines to 90E.