

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

DATE: 19/01/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO20 036/06 and WTIO30 037/06 issued at 06 UTC on Severe Tropical Storm DUDZAI. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin has a Monsoon Talweg (MT) pattern between 10S and 13S, east of DUDZAI. It extends east of 75E. Convection is weak to moderate over the northern part of the MT, near DUDZAI and between Madagascar and the Seychelles.

An overlapping between a Kelvin wave and a weak equatorial Rossby wave could occur over the eastern part of the basin in the middle of 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 09 UTC :

Estimated position : 21.35S / 61.35E

Movement : SW, 7kt

Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) :45 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 strengthening of the southerly flow is expected in the southern half of the Mozambique Channel by midweek. The passage of an upper-level trough over this area will initially lead to baroclinic cyclogenesis. The tropicalization of this low-pressure system seems compromised due to significant wind shear and the prevalence of baroclinic mechanisms preventing the low-pressure system from becoming symmetrical. The scenario of development to tropical storm stage remains very marginal among European and American ensemble forecasts and AI models.

**The likelihood of the formation of a moderate tropical storm becomes very low from Wednesday 21st January over the southern part of the Mozambique Channel.**

**At the extreme northeast of the basin:**

In connection with the wave activity, a low-pressure system could form and then strengthen within the MT at the eastern end of the basin at the end of the week. However, the scenario of it developing into a tropical storm remains very unlikely for the time being among European and American ensemble forecasts and AI models.

**For the next 5 days, there is no potential for this suspect area to develop into a moderate tropical storm.**

In connection with the westward movement of the equatorial Rossby wave, there will continue to be a risk of cyclogenesis over the central-western part of the basin and in 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.*