AWIO20 FMEE 311225
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 31/01/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO24 009/09 and WTIO30 010/09 issued at 06 UTC on Tropical Cyclone FYTIA. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin has a Monsoon Trough (MT) pattern east of 65E, between 09S and 15S. Convection is weak on either side of the MT but locally strong over the northern Mozambique Channel on the periphery of Tropical Storm FYTIA over Madagascar.

Over the next five days, a succession of Equatorial Rossby waves could enhance convective activity within the TM and bring vorticity precursors within the TM over the center and far east of the basin.

Severe Tropical Storm FYTIA :
Information at 09 UTC :
Estimated position : 16.7S / 46.1E
Movement : SE, 11 kt
Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) : 50 kt
Estimated central pressure : 986 hPa
For further information, please refer to bulletins WTIO24 and WTIO30 issued at 06 UTC and following.

In the center of the basin southwest of the Chagos Archipelago :
A low-pressure system could form southwest of the Chagos Islands early next week in connection with the passage of an equatorial Rossby wave over the center of the basin. This circulation should encounter environmental conditions favorable to its development, with good surface convergence on the equatorial side, low vertical wind shear, and good divergence at altitude on the polar side of the circulation, linked to an upper-level trough circulating off the southeast of the system. In addition, the American (GFS), European (EPS), and AI ensemble forecast models are in good agreement and forecast the development of this low-pressure system by the middle of next week.

The likelihood of the formation of a moderate tropical storm becomes low from tuesday february 3th., then moderate from thursday february 5th southwest of Chagos archipelago.

Over the far eastern part of the basin:
A low-pressure system could form over the far east of the basin over the next few days in connection with the passage of a second equatorial Rossby wave. Strong vertical wind shear and weak low-level convergence are expected to limit its development at the beginning of the week, but these conditions are likely to improve slightly by midweek. As a result, few members of the European (EPS) and American (GFS) ensemble forecast models and AI suggest that this circulation will develop from Wednesday onwards.

The likelihood of the formation of a moderate tropical storm becomes very low from wednesday february 4th.

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.