AWIO20 FMEE 141220
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 14/02/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO24 032/10 and WTIO30 038/10 issued at 06 UTC on Tropical Cyclone GEZANI. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin displays a Monsoon Trough (MT) pattern east of 60E and around 10S. Convective activity along the MT has increased over the last 2 days and is moderate, especially near a low-pressure area located south of the Chagos archipelago and also near an other circulation located in the Australian region and which should remain outside our area of responsibility. Convection is also strong near GEZANI, which is currently in the southern Mozambique Channel.

Over the next five days, within a moist phase of the MJO, the arrival of a new Rossby wave from the east should strengthen the monsoon flow, thus enhancing low-level convergence in the MT by the beginning of next week. Conditions should therefore become more favorable for cyclogenesis.

Tropical Cyclone GEZANI :
Information at 09 UTC :
Estimated position : 25.3 S / 36.3 E
Movement : SE, 11 kt
Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) : 80 kt
Estimated central pressure : 968 hPa
For further information, please refer to bulletins WTIO24 and WTIO30 issued at 06 UTC and following.

South of the Chagos archipelago (over the central and eastern part of the basin) :
The 0459Z ASCAT-C pass shows an elongated circulation southwest of the Chagos archipelago with maximum winds of 20-25kt in the monsoon flow. This good convergence on the north side of the low should persist over the next few days, while convergence on its south side should gradually improve as the subtropical high strengthens to the south. However, easterly wind shear is expected to limit the potential for development until at least Monday, then it should weaken from Wednesday onwards, which could increase odds of cyclogenesis for the second half of the week. Besides, there remains considerable east-west uncertainty regarding the location of this low, given that it is not necessarily the circulation currently observed that will end up developing (another precursor could form along the MT).
Several deterministic models now suggest the development of a tropical storm from February 19th or 20th. The European ensemble is fairly reactive, while GEFS suggests lower probabilities. Probabilities of cyclogenesis have also increased on AI ensembles.

The risk of tropical storm formation over the central or eastern part of the basin (south of the Chagos archipelago) is expected to become very low from Tuesday 17th, low from Wednesday 18th then moderate from Thursday 19th February.

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.