AWIO20 FMEE 161100
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 16/02/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO24 040/10 and WTIO30 046/10 issued at 06 UTC on Severe Tropical Storm GEZANI. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin has a Monsoon Trough (MT) configuration east of 60E between 9 and 11S. Convective activity is moderate to strong on the northern side of the MT and on its southwestern side south of a large circulation. Convective activity is thus present in the vicinity of GEZANI, which is moving south of Madagascar.

In the context of a wet phase of the MJO, the Rossby wave moving over the center of the basin is strengthening the monsoon flow, favoring low-layer convergence within the MT during the week. Conditions are therefore expected to become more favorable for cyclogenesis within the MT in the middle or even end of the week.

Moderate Tropical Storm GEZANI :
Information at 09 UTC :
Estimated position : 25.0 S / 42.1E
Movement : ESE, 4kt
Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) : 45 kt
Estimated central pressure : 992 hPa
For further information, please refer to bulletins WTIO24 and WTIO30 issued at 06 UTC and following.

South of the Chagos archipelago :
Recent diffusiometric passes show the presence of a large circulation within the MT over the center of the basin around 12S/59E. South of this area, convective activity is clearly present.

In the coming days, with very good convergence persisting on the equatorial side around this area, most models suggest the formation of a closed circulation. As this circulation becomes more concrete with a slightly more favorable environment, a more noticeable cyclogenesis signal appears for the second half of the week over the center of the basin.

The risk of tropical storm formation over the center of the basin is expected to become moderate from Thursday 19th then high from Friday 20th 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.