AWIO20 FMEE 081131
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 08/03/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Nil.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The Monsoon Trough (MT) configuration is present east of 65°E, undulating between 8° and 12°S. A still weak monsoon flow affects the northern part of the Mozambique Channel.
Convective activity is weak over the eastern end of the basin and near the Seychelles archipelago. It is moderate over the northern part of the Mozambique Channel along the African coast and in the convergence zone with the trade winds over the southwestern part of the MT north of the Mascarene Islands.

The dry phase of the MJO over our basin is expected to gradually shift eastward by mid-March, allowing for the return of more favorable conditions over the western part of the basin, including a strengthening of the MT. In addition to the effects of the MJO, a Kelvin wave is expected to approach Africa over the next five days, gradually strengthening the monsoon flow over the northern Mozambique Channel, along the African coast. The wave pattern is therefore gradually improving, but this improvement remains slow.

A low-pressure system could form southwest of Diego Garcia next week as the monsoon flow strengthens, which should improve low-level convergence. The main ensemble forecast models contain a few members that suggest intensification to moderate tropical storm status starting on Friday.

For the next 5 days, there is a low risk of a tropical storm forming west of the Chagos Islands starting on Friday, March 13.

10-day outlook:
In the longer term, more favorable wave activity and the eastward shift of the dry phase of the MJO should improve convergence within the MT between the west and center of the basin. The risk of a tropical storm forming southwest of Diego Garcia is then expected to increase.

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.