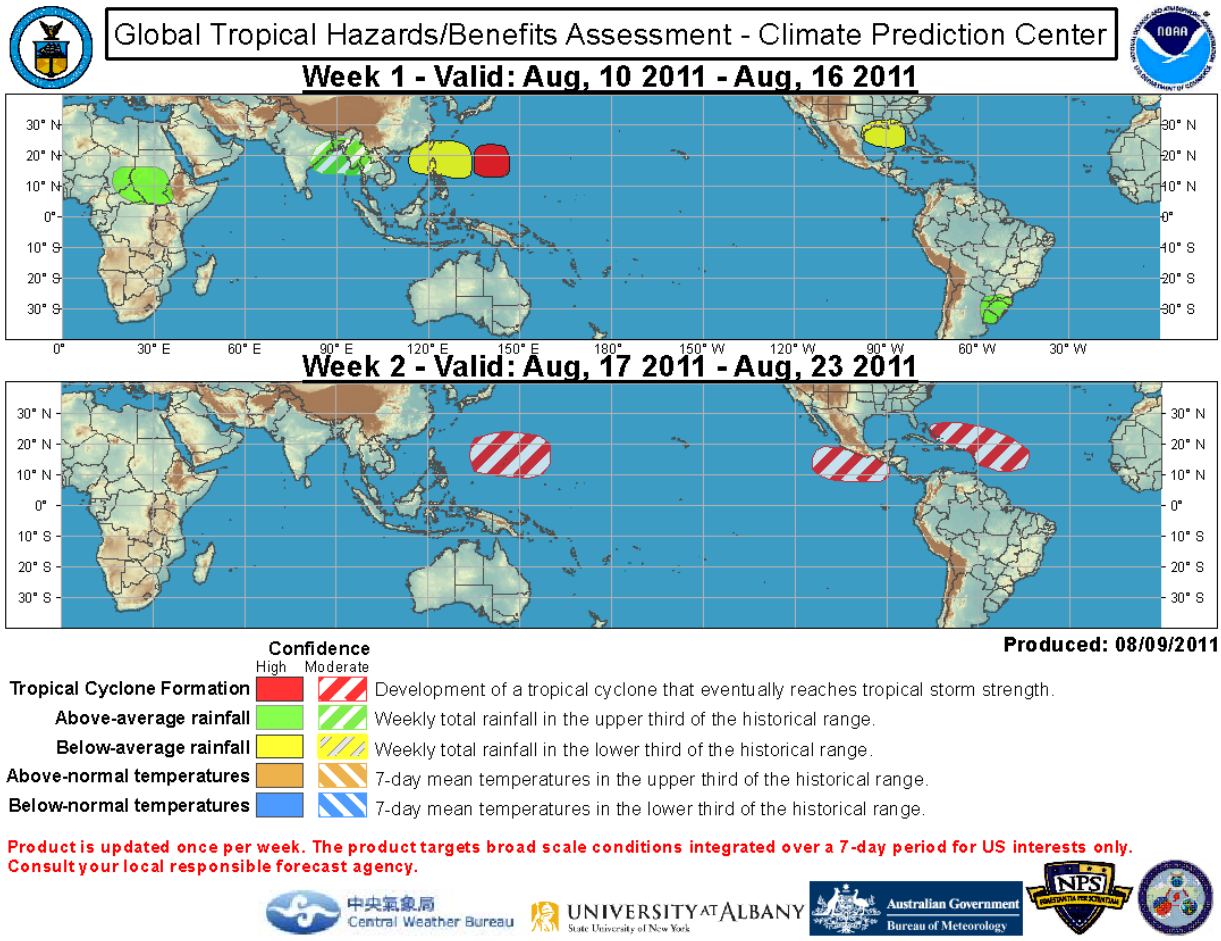

The MJO signal remained weak during the past week and much of the recent anomalous convection has been the result of other higher frequency features such as variations in the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), tropical cyclone activity, an atmospheric Kelvin wave, and an equatorial Rossby wave. During the past week, enhanced rainfall was observed in parts of Africa, the Bay of Bengal, the northwest Pacific, and the western Atlantic. Suppressed rainfall was observed across the eastern Indian Ocean and western Indonesia. Numerical model forecasts of the MJO indicate a strengthening signal, but it is likely related to other coherent subseasonl tropical variability, such as the Kelvin wave mentioned above, projecting onto components of the index. There is no eastward propagation of this signal.

Hurricane Eugene dissipated offshore of the Mexican coast during the past week. Typhoon Muifa affected eastern China, Korea, and nearby islands in the northwest Pacific, while Typhoon Merbok developed southeast of Japan. Tropical Storm Emily brought heavy rainfall to the Caribbean Islands and Bahamas.

During the first week of the assessment period, enhanced precipitation is expected across parts of Africa and the Bay of Bengal, associated with a combination of an atmospheric Kelvin wave and an equatorial Rossby wave moving across these areas. Current satellite imagery indicates widespread convection is ongoing in these areas, and model guidance also supports enhanced convection in these regions. As of Tuesday, August 9, there is a tropical disturbance in the northwest Pacific which is showing signs of development. Please refer to the Joint Typhoon Warning Center for the latest information on this system. The greatest threst for tropical development in this area is very early in the period. West of this area, model guidance favors suppressed convection in the western Pacific, the northern Philippines, and the northern part of the South China Sea. Model guidance favors below median precipitation in the Gulf of Mexico, while enhanced precipitation is favored in southern Brazil and Uruguay, associated with a front moving across the region.

Uncertainty is high during week-2 for areas with enhanced or suppressed convection. Forecast low wind shear and disturbances in model guidance elevate the chances for tropical cyclone development in the western Atlantic and eastern Pacific. Model guidance also indicates tropical cyclone formation probabilities are elevated in the eastern part of the the western Pacific during this time.