Experimental Global Tropics Hazards/Benefits Assessment

Update prepared by:
Climate Prediction Center / NCEP
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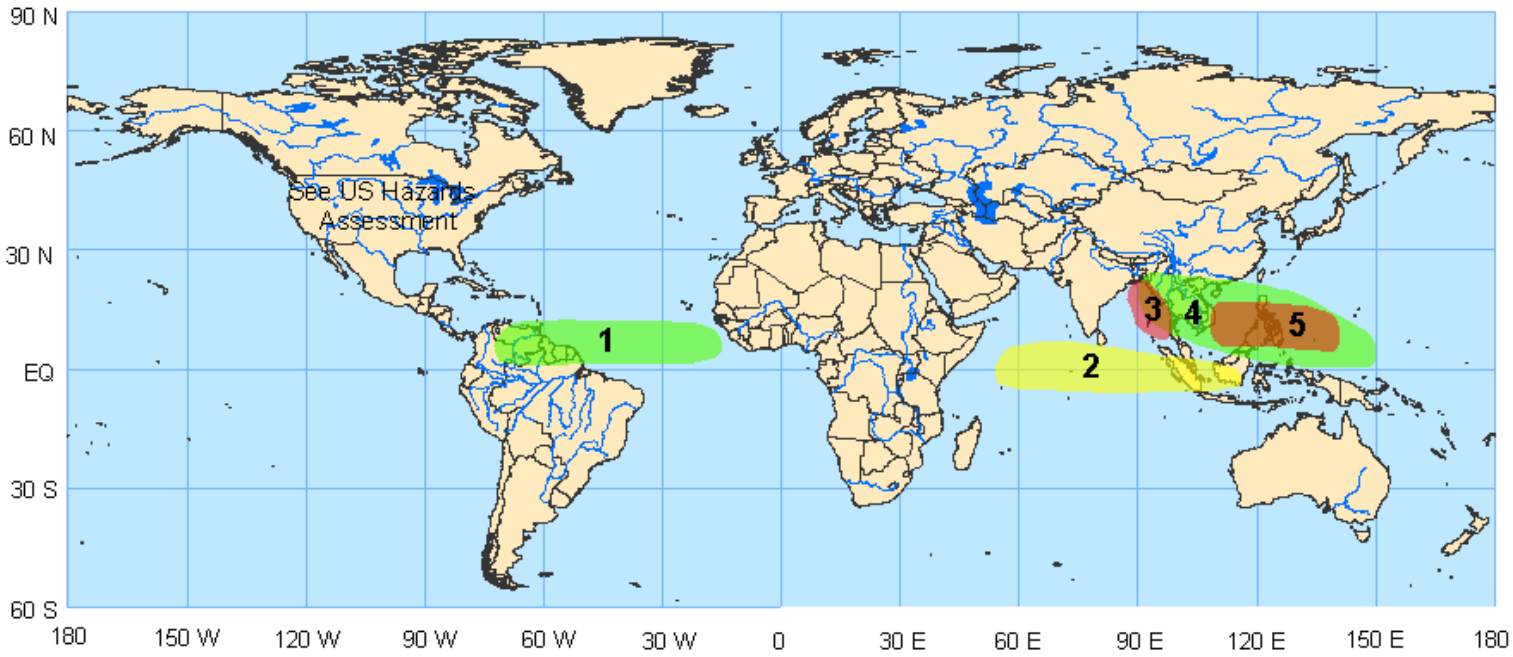
Week 1 Outlook – Valid: May 13 – 19, 2008



1. An increased chance for above-average rainfall for northern South America and the Atlantic Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone. Wet conditions are expected due to a combination of La Nina conditions, an MJO component and above-average sea surface temperatures (SST). **Confidence: Moderate**

2. An increased chance for below-average rainfall for the equatorial Indian Ocean and western Indonesia. Dry conditions are expected due to the MJO signal and below-average SSTs. Numerical weather forecast guidance also indicate dry conditions during the period. **Confidence: High**

3. Favorable conditions exist for tropical cyclogenesis for the eastern Bay of Bengal. Numerical weather forecast models indicate the potential for a cyclonic circulation to persist near the eastern coast of the Bay of Bengal. The vertical wind shear may be too strong for development but the potential exists. In any event, heavy rainfall is likely to occur in this region. **Confidence: Moderate**

4. An increased chance for above-average rainfall stretching from Southeast Asia into the western Pacific. Wet conditions are expected in this area due to a combination of La Nina conditions, an early onset to monsoon associated rainfall, an MJO component and potential tropical cyclone activity. **Confidence: High**

5. Favorable conditions exist for tropical cyclogenesis for the South China Sea and the western Pacific. Active convection, associated low-level westerly flow near and on the equator along with regions of generally low vertical wind shear make cyclogenesis more likely during the period. Also, SSTs are above-average is some sections of this region. **Confidence: High**

Please note: Confidence estimates are subjective in nature and are not based on an objective scheme. The estimates are given to provide additional information to the user.

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Week 2 Outlook – Valid: May 20 – 26, 2008

1. An increased chance for above-average rainfall for the Atlantic Ocean Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). Wet conditions are expected due to a combination of La Nina conditions, an MJO component and above-average SSTs. **Confidence: Moderate**

2. An increased chance for above-average rainfall stretching from Southeast Asia into the western Pacific. Wet conditions are expected in this area due to a combination of La Nina conditions, an early onset to monsoon associated rainfall, an MJO component and potential tropical cyclone activity. **Confidence: Moderate**

3. Favorable conditions exist for tropical cyclogenesis for the South China Sea and the western Pacific. Active convection, associated low-level westerly flow near and on the equator make cyclogenesis more likely. Also, SSTs are above-average in some sections of this region. **Confidence: Moderate**

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Some potential does exist for the redevelopment of enhanced rainfall across sections of Africa and the Indian Ocean later during Week 2 associated with the MJO. However, the magnitude and timing of these conditions is very unclear at the current time.

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