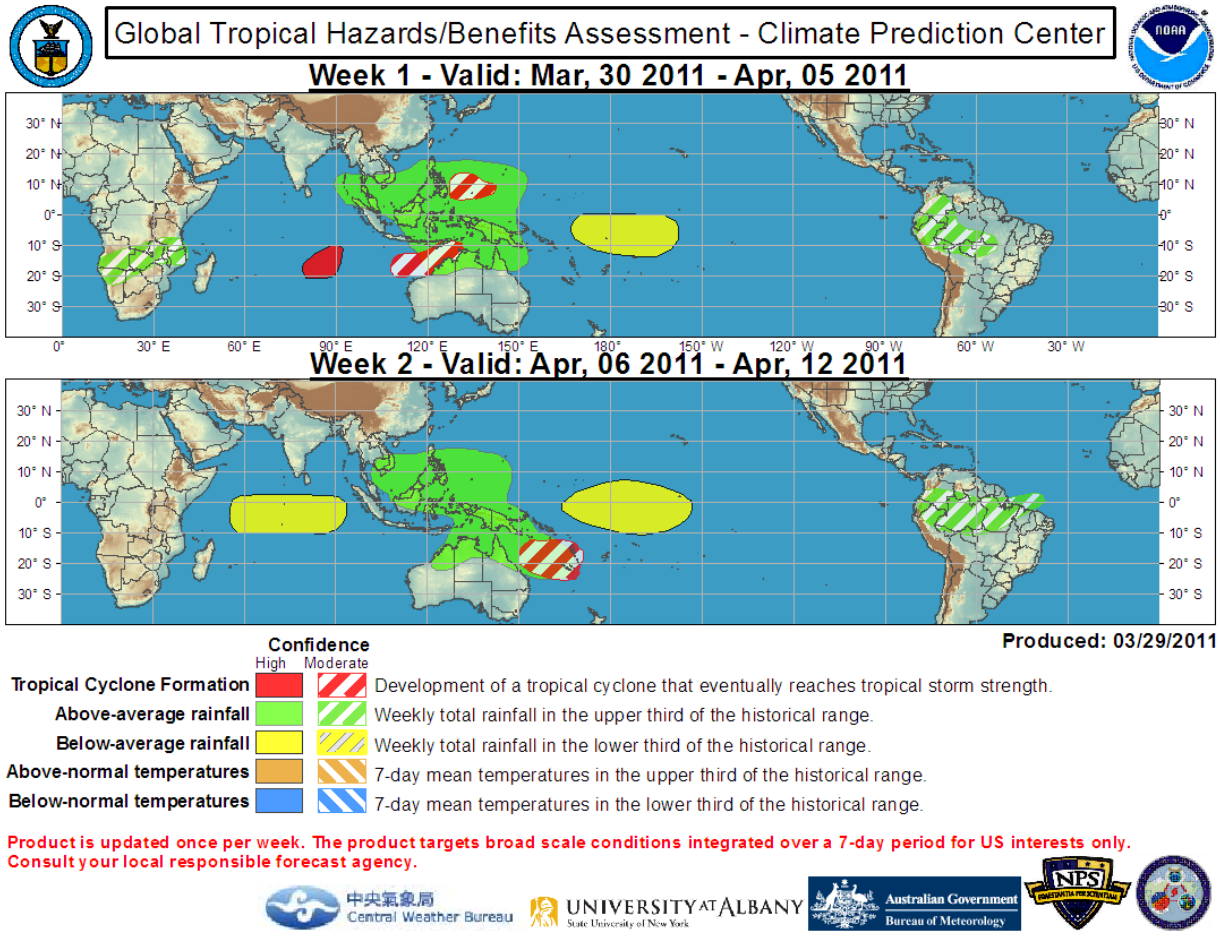

Constructive interference of an eastward moving Kelvin wave, westward moving equatorial Rossby wave and La Nina conditions provided the proper conditions for significant rainfall across the maritime continent during the past week. The two mobile features combined to spread westerly winds as far east as areas north of Papua New Guinea. Additional eastward propagation of the Kelvin wave is likely during Week-1. A northward shift of convection as compared to previous weeks was evident this past week in the most recent OLR anomaly maps, showing anomalous convection across southeast Asia and the South China Sea.

SSTs continued to warm in many areas of the Pacific basin as La Nina oceanic conditions continued to weaken. The area of below normal SSTs has been reduced in coverage and oceanic heat content for the uppermost 300m is above normal. La Nina conditions across the central Pacific, however, continue to favor below-average rainfall across the equatorial central Pacific throughout the two week period, although reduced in spatial extent.

Above-normal precipitation is likely to continue across much of the Maritime continent, the western Pacific and northern Australia due to a combination of factors including subseasonal variability and La Nina conditions. During Week-2, an extension of the above normal rainfall is favored across the Coral Sea. Additionally, the faster Kelvin wave signal results in enhanced chances for above-average precipitation to northern South America. Also, during Week-2, drier-than average conditions are favored across the equatorial Indian Ocean.

Westerly wind anomalies and forecast reduced vertical wind shear in the wake of the above mobile features produce favorable conditions for tropical cyclogenesis during Week-1 across parts of the southern Indian Ocean and southwest north Pacific Ocean. During Week-2, the area most favorable for tropical cyclone development moves eastward to the Coral Sea.