

The MJO has weakened during the past seven days. Much of the recent tropical weather can be ascribed to variations in the Inter Tropical Convergnece Zone (ITCZ), the development and propagation of tropical cyclone activity, and intrinsic internal variability of the coupled ocean-atmosphere system, given the lack of any coherent climate forcing mechanisms, i.e., ENSO and MJO. During the past week enhanced rainfall was observed across portions of the northern Indian Ocean, northwest Pacific Ocean, and the intra-American Seas region. Suppressed rainfall was evident over portions of the central and western equatorial Pacific.

Tropical Storm's Bret and Dora formed in the western Atlantic and eastern Pacific, respectively. Bret is rapidly weakening and moving to the northeast away from the continental United States, while Dora is forecast to intensify into a Major Hurricane and move toward the northwest parallel with the Mexican coast. There is a slight chance that Dora may impact the Baja peninsula this weekend. Tropical Storm Ma-On is currently impacting Japan and is forecast to move northeast out to sea and eventually weaken.

Numerical model forecasts of the MJO index indicate a weakening signal during Week-1 with eastward propagation. At this time, this signal cannot be explicitly linked to coherent, eastward propagating MJO activity, but is more likely related to several other factors. The dynamical models largely agree that the signal will become incoherent during week-2.

During the first week of the assessment period, the Asian monsoon circulation is expected to strengthen, with numerical weather guidance indicating enhanced precipitation in the Bay of Bengal, with Suppressed rainfall anomalies forecast across the eastern portions of the Indian Ocean and northwest Maritime Continent. Numerical model guidance and a strengthened ITCZ also indicate enhanced rainfall anomalies across Central America and portions of Mexico during Week-1. Numerical model guidance is also suggesting the presence of a tropical wave in the western Atlantic during week-1, moderately elevating the chance for Tropical Cyclogenesis in that region.

Uncertainty is moderate during week-2, with numerical model guidance indicating enhanced rainfall anomalies across the far western equatorial Pacific and northern Maritime Continent, and suppressed rainfall anomalies across the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean. Some statistical tools are indicating a potential return of MJO activity that is consistent with the forecast rainfall pattern, however dynamical model guidance has not yet indicated this re-emergence of the MJO index. there is also an elevated chance of TC genesis in the western Pacific to the east of the Phillipines during week-2 given the strong westerly wind anomalies forecast just to the south of that region.