

The MJO remained active during the past week with the enhanced phase centered across the western Hemisphere. Forecasts from many of the available dynamic models indicate continued eastward propagation with generally a weak signal. The circulation associated with the Indian Monsoon continued below normal strength (Webster-Yang Monsoon Index). Meanwhile, above average rainfall was observed across southern Mexico and Baja California.

The Atlantic basin became active this past week with three tropical cyclones developing: Hurricane Gordon at a relatively high latitude, short-lived Tropical Storm Helene offshore of northeast Mexico, and most recently Tropical Depression 9 in the main development region of the Atlantic. The west Pacific remained active with a pair of tropical cyclones developing. In contrast, no tropical cyclones developed in the east Pacific.

During Week-1 (August 23-29), the Global Hazards Outlook is based on a slow eastward propagation of the MJO, ongoing tropical cyclone activity, and model guidance. Typhoons Tembin and Bolaven in the west Pacific favor a broad area of above average rainfall across the west Pacific, Taiwan, southeast

China, and possibly as far north as South Korea. Please refer to the latest statements from the Joint Typhoon Warning Center at: http://www.usno.navy.mil/JTWC. Tropical Depression 9 is forecast to become a tropical storm and may affect the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Hispaniola, Jamaica, and Cuba. Above average rainfall can be expected along its forecasted track. The National Hurricane Center, as of August 21, indicates that a tropical wave southwest of the Cape Verde Islands has a 60 percent chance of becoming a tropical cyclone during the next 48 hours. Please refer to the National Hurricane Center at: www.nhc.noaa.gov for the latest information on tropical cyclones in the Atlantic. Early in the week-1 period, the enhanced phase of the MJO favors above average rainfall across the North American monsoon region. Anomalous westerlies along with the enhanced phase of the MJO increases chances for above average rainfall across western Africa.

During Week-2 (August 30-September 5), the Global Hazards Outlook indicates above average rainfall for parts of the eastern Indian Ocean, Maritime Continent, and west Pacific due to the enhanced phase of the MJO shifting slowly east. Odds for tropical cyclone development are forecast to increase for the South China Sea and west Pacific. Drier conditions compared to week-1 are forecast for the North America monsoon region due to the effects from the suppressed phase of the MJO. Climatology, warmer than normal SSTs, and model guidance indicate a continuation of elevated chances for tropical cyclogenesis across the main development region of the Atlantic into the beginning of September.