

Enhanced convection continued over the Indian Ocean, primarily western sections. Drier than average conditions continued for much of the western Pacific Ocean and parts of the western Maritime continent. Hurricane Sandy produced very heavy rainfall and damaging winds across many areas of the Caribbean and Bahamas which resulted in dozens of deaths. Suppressed convection was observed over most of north-central and northeast South America, while above average rainfall fell across much of equatorial Africa and Southeast Brazil. Typhoon Son-Tinh developed just off the eastern coast of the Philippines and impacted the South China Sea, southern China and parts of northeast Southeast Asia. Tropical cyclones Murjan Nilam developed in the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal, early and late in the week, respectively.

The MJO remained active during the past week with the enhanced phase centered across the western Indian Ocean. There is considerable spread among the dynamical model MJO index forecasts. Some show little coherent activity while others indicate some remaining eastward propagating signal, albeit weaker than the last couple of weeks. The MJO index forecasts may be struggling with the representation of other subseasonal tropical variability (namely equatorial Rossby waves (ER) in the the Indo-Pacific warm pool region) and we favor a continuation of MJO activity. Based on the latest

observations and some model MJO index forecasts, the MJO is forecast to remain active during the next 1-2 weeks with the enhanced convective phase located across the Indian Ocean and western Maritime continent during the period.

During Week-1, the MJO, ER wave activity and tropical cyclone Nilam favor above average rainfall for the equatorial Indian Ocean, primarily north of the equator, southern India and the western Maritime continent. GFS and CFSv2 model guidance also favor above-average rainfall in many of these areas. ER wave activity and model guidance favor above average rainfall for interior sections of east Africa. Drier-than-average conditions are forecast to continue for areas in the western Pacific for the Philippines and areas east and this is supported by MJO composites and model guidance. Suppressed convection is also favored across portions of northern South America consistent with MJO phase and model guidance.

Uncertainty is somewhat high during Week-2, but enhanced rainfall is favored across the eastern Indian Ocean and Maritime continent associated with eastward movement of the MJO as well as elevated chances of tropical cyclogenesis for the southern Indian Ocean. Suppressed convection remains favored for portions of northern South America.