

The ongoing, strong El Nino continues to remain the major contributor to large scale tropical convective anomalies. The Wheeler-Hendon RMM MJO index indicates no MJO signal, while the CPC Velocity Potential index features a pattern consistent with the background state.

Dynamical model consensus favors a continued weak MJO signal during the next two weeks, although an increase in the amplitude of the MJO index is depicted the GFS and ECMWF models. This amplitude increase is likely related to a pair of atmospheric Kelvin Waves and tropical cyclone activity.

Tropical Storm Ida developed over the central Atlantic during the past week and its movement is erratic. Following Hurricane Linda over the East Pacific earlier in September, Tropical Depression 16E recently developed near the Baja Peninsula and tracked north toward the U.S. desert Southwest. Tropical Storm Malia is currently located northwest of the Hawaiian Islands, while an area of low pressure is southeast of Hilo, Hawaii. Environmental conditions are favorable for this system to become a tropical cyclone with a subsequent track expected east of Hawaii. On September 21, Tropical Depression 21W developed

over the west Pacific (16N-142E). TD 21W is expected to strengthen rapidly as it tracks northwest, posing a risk to southern Japan.

Anomalous rainfall during the next two weeks is based largely on El Nino with minor influence from a pair of atmospheric Kelvin Waves crossing the Pacific. Above (below)-average rainfall is likely to persist across the East Pacific (Maritime Continent, Caribbean region, and northern South America). Tropical cyclone development is expected across the East Pacific sometime during the next weeks. Moderate confidence for Weeks 1 and 2 reflect the timing uncertainty. Above-average rainfall is favored across the equatorial Pacific at the Date Line, due to the Kelvin Waves and is consistent with the CFS precipitation forecast and recent enhanced convection in this region. An early withdrawal of the Indian Monsoon resulted in suppressed convection across northwestern India during early September. During Week-1, below-average rainfall is favored for parts of eastern India where monsoonal rainfall typically continues through the end of September.

Above-average rainfall is likely along and offshore of the Southeast due to a mid-latitude surface trough coupled with anomalous low-level moisture. Model guidance remains consistent that a surface low closes off across the Bay of Campeche or southern Gulf Mexico early next week. A moderate confidence for tropical cyclone development is forecast for this region for Week-1. Above-average rainfall is favored from southern Mexico northward into the Gulf of Mexico during Week-1. Above-average rainfall is expected along parts of the Gulf Coast during Week-2 as a tropical system or moisture shifts north. Uncertainty on the exact location reduces forecast confidence.

Forecasts for Africa are done in collaboration with CPC's Africa Desk and based on model forecast guidance and regional scale anomaly features.