

In an RMM sense, the MJO has stayed within the unit circle over the past couple of weeks and is considered inactive. In a non-RMM sense, there are signals in the MJO-filtered OLR and low-level wind fields around the Equator, but these signals are not reflected in the RMM index because it's more of a Wave-2 type structure than a Wave-1 type structure. There is no substantive model guidance that suggests the MJO will strengthen during the next two weeks, although a handful of GEFS and ECMWF ensemble members try to develop a weak MJO by the end of Week-2 over the Indian Ocean.

There are three areas of potential tropical cyclone formation in today's forecast. The first area is in the southern Indian Ocean around 15S and 75E. There is moderate confidence that the interaction between Kelvin and ER waves in this region will assist TC development around the end of Week-1 or the beginning of Week-2. If this occurs, model guidance indicates that the storm will most likely track southwest. The second area of potential tropical cyclone development is just off Australia's Kimberley Coast. There is high confidence of TC development here during the first few days of Week-1, and also moderate confidence of TC development during Week-2 associated with low-level vort maxes. There is also moderate confidence of TC development over a third region just southeast of Guam. TC development in this region is favored mostly by the GEFS and UK models whereas the ECMWF does not

show significant development. Interested parties, especially those in Guam, are encouraged to consult local forecast offices and tropical cyclone forecast centers for the latest updates.

Elsewhere, the tropical atmosphere is fairly quiet. There is still some above-average rainfall expected over the central and western equatorial Pacific associated with El Nino during Weeks 1 and 2. There is also high confidence that the low-frequency below-average rainfall signal in the south central Pacific will continue throughout Week-1. Lastly, the southern shift in the ITCZ off the east coast of South America is expected to continue throughout the forecast period.

Forecasts over Africa are made using dynamical model guidance and in coordination with the CPC international desk, and can represent local-scale conditions in addition to global-scale variability.