



Forecast guidance for Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP)

SHORT RANGE FORECAST DISCUSSION 14H00 EST 12th March 2007

**AFRICA DESK
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER
National Centers for Environmental predictions
National Weather Service
NOAA
Camp Springs MD 20746**

FORECAST DISCUSSION 14H00 EST 12th March 2007

Valid: 00Z 13th March 2007- 00Z 15th March 2007.

WARNING: MODERATE TROPICAL CYCLONE 19S (INDLADA)

Position at 121200Z --- near 13.0S 57.2E

Movement past six hours - 280 degrees at 05 kts

Present wind distribution: Max sustained winds - 055 kt, gusts 070 kt

12 hrs forecasts position valid at 130000Z --- 13.0S 56.2E

Max sustained winds - 065 kt, gusts 080 kt

24 hrs forecast position valid at 131200Z --- 13.3S 55.1E

Max sustained winds - 075 kt, gusts 090 kt

36 hrs forecast position valid at 140000Z --- 13.9S 54.1E

Max sustained winds - 090 kt, gusts 110 kt

Extended Outlook:

48 hrs forecast position valid at 141200Z --- 14.4S 53.3E

Max sustained winds - 100 kt, gusts 125 kt.

At T+24 hrs, the general flow pattern at 200hpa over Southern Africa (South of the Equator) shows a high pressure system with two cells centered at 32°S 13°E and at 11°S 11°E, causing divergence over most of the western half of the sub continent. A trough is lying between these high pressure cells, inducing convergence over the southeastern parts of the sub continent. A trough is causing convergence over areas of the sub continent which are east of 22°E longitude but south of 20°S latitude. Another high pressure system with its center located at 18°S 60°E is causing divergence over the rest of the sub continent. At T+48 hrs, there is a low over the border between Namibia and Botswana.

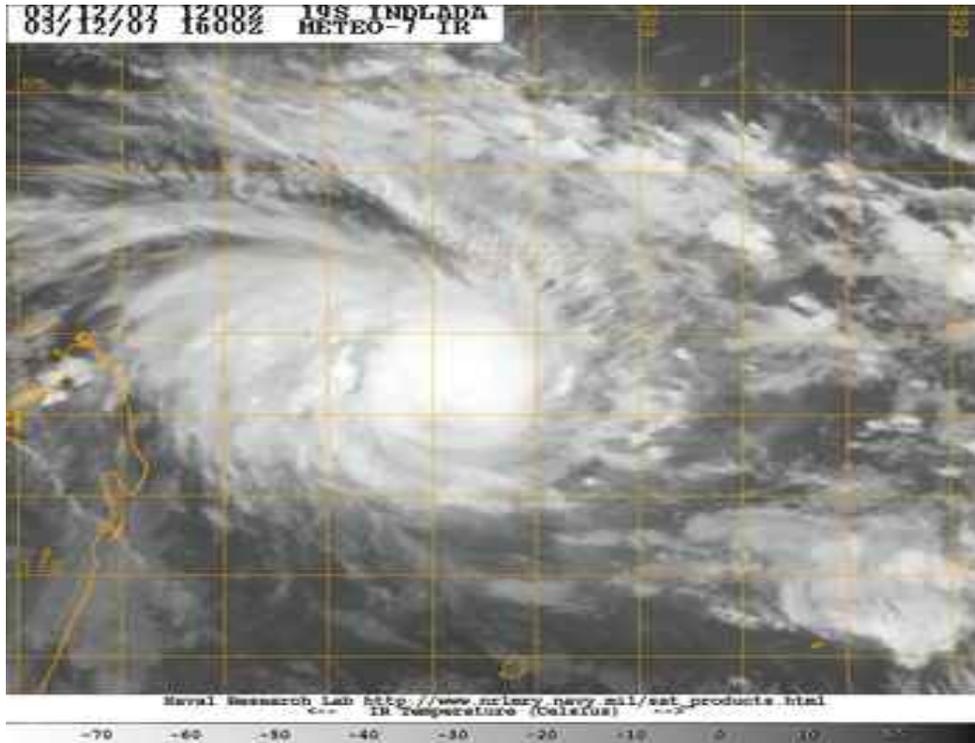
Anticyclonic flow prevails over rest of the sub continent. There is a trough to the southwest of the sub continent, with its northwest axis lying at 28°S 2°W and its southeast axis lying at 60°S 11°E approaching the sub continent. At T+72 hrs, the trough from the Atlantic Ocean is over the southwestern interior, causing convergence over these areas. There is no significant change in the general flow pattern elsewhere, except that the low over the border Namibia/ Botswana border has slightly filled up.

At 500hpa, there is a low to the northeast of Madagascar (12°S 54°E), lying between the two cells of the Mascarene high located at 9°S 66°E, and another one lying at 29°S 60°E is ridging into Madagascar. A trough is causing convergence over southern Madagascar. The St Helena high pressure system has two cells centered at 28°S 9°E and at 18°S 33°E, causing divergence over the rest of the sub continent. At T+48 hrs, the low to the northeast of Madagascar has shifted northwestwards to 11°S 49°E. There is another low over the Atlantic Ocean (23°S 2°E) approaching the sub continent. Anticyclonic flow prevails over the rest of the sub continent. At T+72 hrs, a trough is causing convergence over the southwestern parts of South Africa and another trough is lying over southeastern Botswana. The convergence over southern Madagascar is maintained. The low to the northwest of Madagascar has shifted southeastwards to 16°S 51°E. Divergence prevails over the rest of the sub continent.

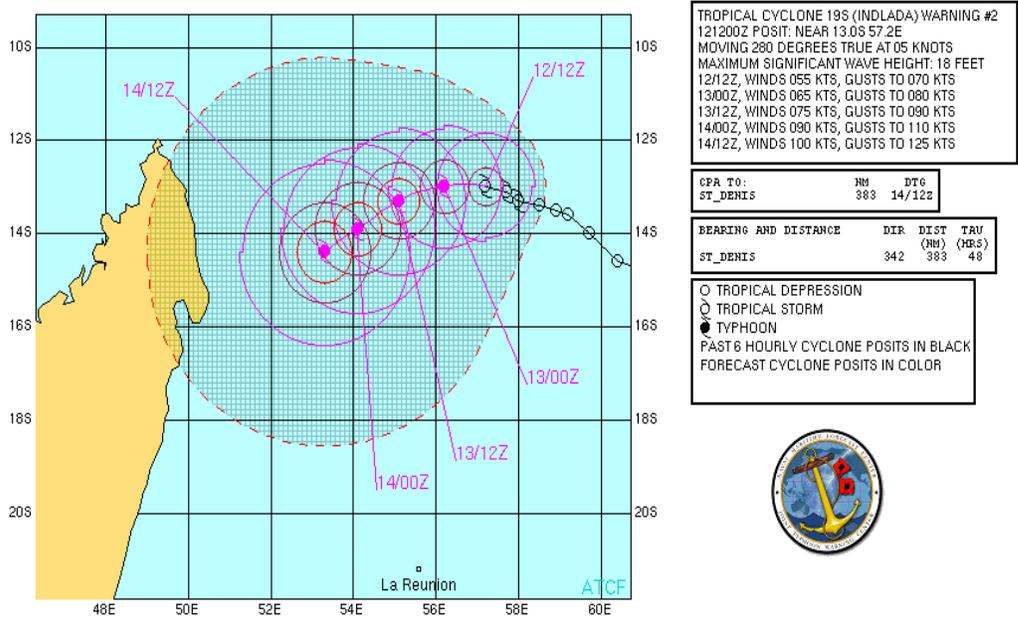
At 850hPa, there is a low just to the northeastern Madagascar centered at 12°S 57°E, where a Tropical cyclone (Indlada) can be seen. This low is lying between the two cells of the Mascarene high centered at 27°S 33°E and at 38°S 65°E, and is throwing a ridge into all areas of the sub continent that are south of 12°S latitude and east of 20°E longitude. Another low is centered at 31°S 28°E, just over southeastern South Africa. The St Helena high, has its center located at 31°S 19°W and it is throwing a ridge over the western parts of the sub continent. Areas of the sub continent which are north of 12°S latitude are under convergence due to a trough. At T+48 hrs, the St Helena high shifts eastwards and has two cells centered at 31°S 18°E and at 30°S 34°E, and it is extending a ridge into most areas of the sub continent, except over the coast of Angola where there is a low, and the extreme northeastern parts of Madagascar where cyclonic circulation is still persistent, due to the Tropical Cyclone Indlada. At T+72 hrs there is no significant change in the general flow pattern.

Generally there is a resemblance in the patterns of UK- Met, ECMWF and GFS models.

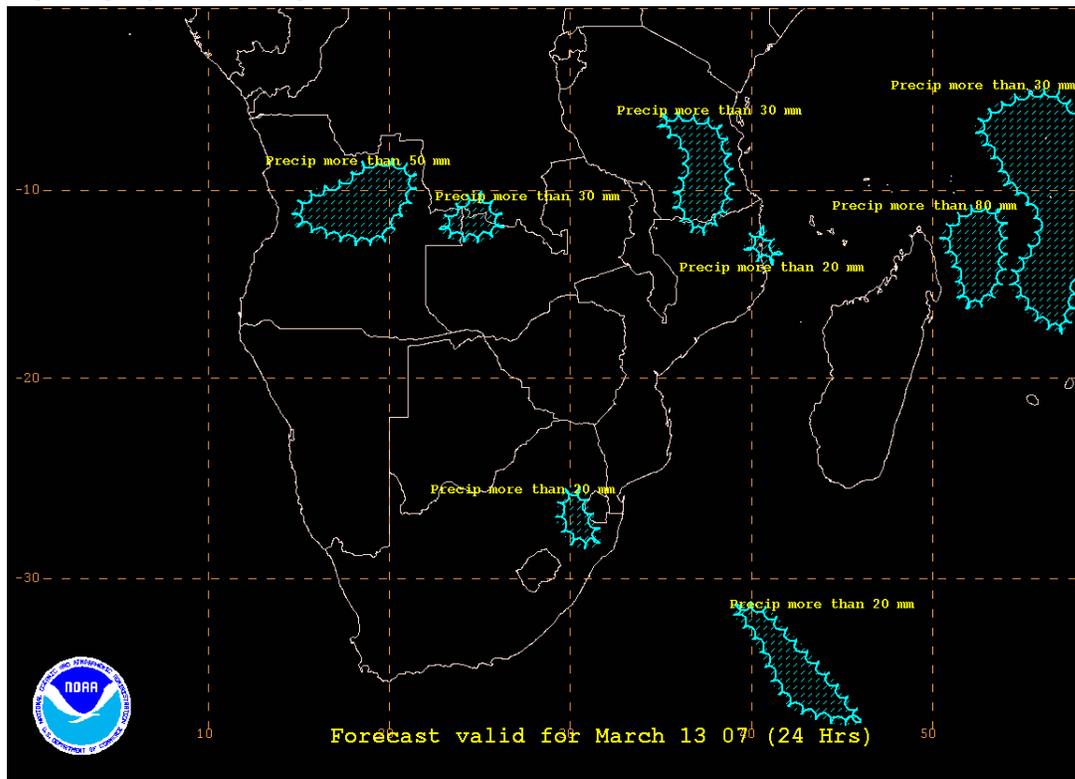
SATELLITE IMAGERY OF THE MODERATE TROPICAL CYCLONE INDLADA



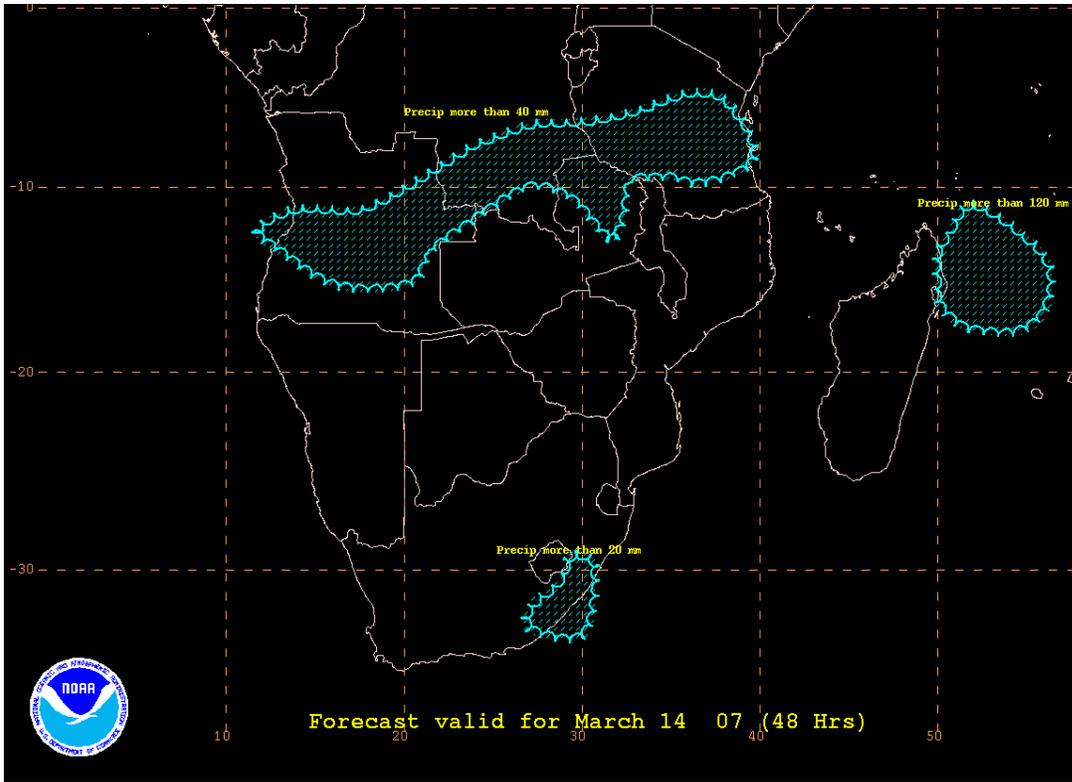
TROPICAL CYCLONE INDLADA TRACK AS ISSUED BY JTWC



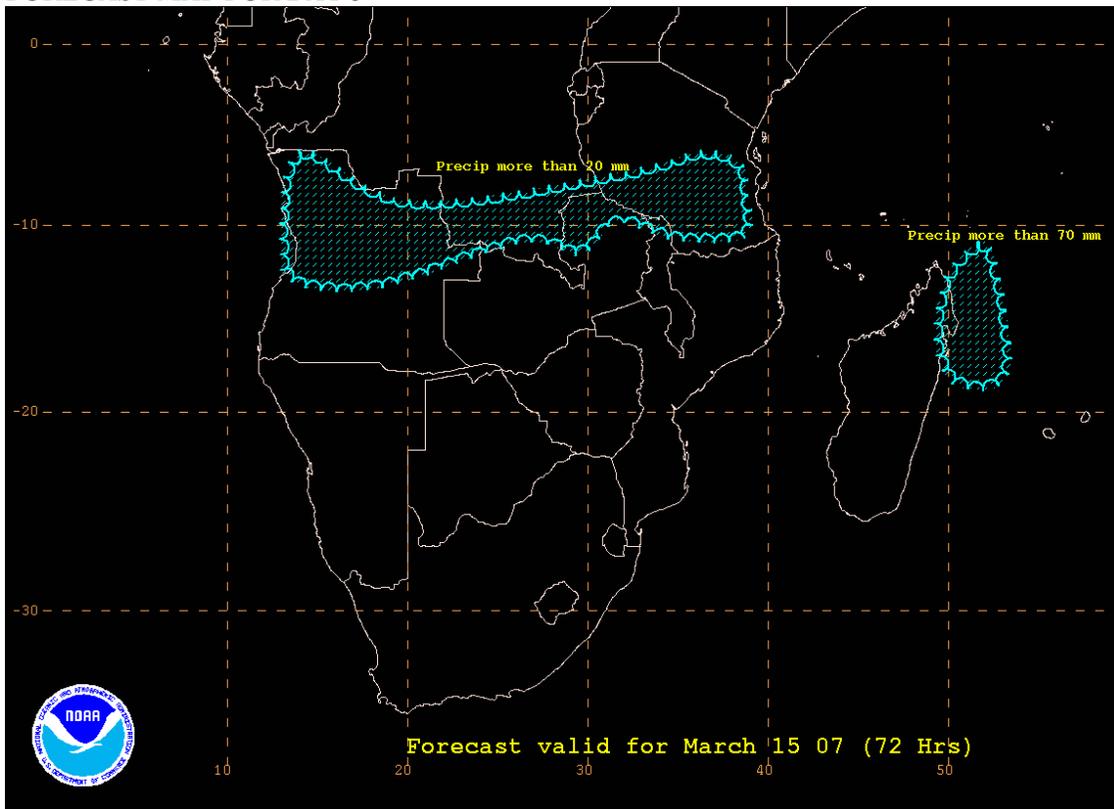
FORECAST MAP FOR DAY 1



FORECAST FOR DAY 2



FORECAST MAP FOR DAY 3



Authors :

Oliver Moses:- Botswana Meteorological Services and African Desk

Sérgio Buque:- Mozambique Meteorological Services and African Desk