

WTIO30 FMEE 261244

RSMC / TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / LA REUNION

TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST WARNING (SOUTH-WEST INDIAN OCEAN)

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 17/3/20232024

1.A SEVERE TROPICAL STORM 3 (CANDICE)

2.A POSITION 2024/01/26 AT 1200 UTC:

WITHIN 30 NM RADIUS OF POINT 26.6 S / 61.8 E

(TWENTY SIX DECIMAL SIX DEGREES SOUTH AND
SIXTY ONE DECIMAL EIGHT DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT: SOUTH-SOUTH-EAST 6 KT

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 3.0/3.5/W 0.5/6 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 985 HPA

5.A MAX AVERAGE WIND SPEED (10 MN): 50 KT

RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW): 33 KM

6.A EXTENSION OF WIND BY QUADRANTS (KM):

28 KT NE: 220 SE: 465 SW: 565 NW: 250

34 KT NE: 175 SE: 260 SW: 260 NW: 0

48 KT NE: 0 SE: 0 SW: 170 NW: 0

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1006 HPA / 700 KM

8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION: DEEP

1.B FORECASTS (WINDS RADII IN KM):

12H: 2024/01/27 00 UTC: 27.7 S / 60.8 E, VENT MAX= 045 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL
STORM

28 KT NE: 185 SE: 490 SW: 530 NW: 215

34 KT NE: 100 SE: 270 SW: 295 NW: 10

24H: 2024/01/27 12 UTC: 29.5 S / 59.1 E, VENT MAX= 035 KT, POST-TROPICAL
DEPRESSION

28 KT NE: 100 SE: 380 SW: 425 NW: 140

34 KT NE: 0 SE: 195 SW: 150 NW: 10

36H: 2024/01/28 00 UTC: 31.8 S / 57.8 E, VENT MAX= 030 KT, POST-TROPICAL
DEPRESSION

28 KT NE: 120 SE: 260 SW: 220 NW: 130

48H: 2024/01/28 12 UTC: 33.7 S / 57.8 E, VENT MAX= 025 KT, EXTRATROPICAL
DEPRESSION

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK:

NIL

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

BASED ON THE ASCAT PASSES AT 0450Z AND 0502Z AND THE SMOS IMAGE AT 0226Z, CANDICE'S INTENSITY HAS BEEN REVISED UPWARDS SINCE 00UTC. THE BEST-TRACK HAS THEREFORE BEEN MODIFIED TO A SEVERE TROPICAL STORM WITH MAXIMUM WINDS OF 50KT IN THE SOUTH-WEST QUADRANT OF THE SYSTEM AT 00 AND 06Z.

OVER THE PAST 6 HOURS, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE CHANGE IN THE CLOUD STRUCTURE OF SEVERE TROPICAL STORM CANDICE. CONVECTIVE ACTIVITY IS LIMITED TO A PERIMETER VERY CLOSE TO THE CENTER, NOTABLY IN THE WESTERN SEMICIRCLE. THE RSMC THEREFORE MAINTAINS THE SYSTEM AS A SEVERE TROPICAL STORM WITH WINDS OF 50KT.

IN TERMS OF TRACK, LITTLE HAS CHANGED FROM PREVIOUS FORECASTS. CANDICE'S MOVEMENT IS ESSENTIALLY DRIVEN BY A RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE TO THE EAST OF THE SYSTEM. THIS WILL FORCE IT TO MOVE SOUTHWARDS AND THEN SOUTH-SOUTH-WESTWARDS OVERNIGHT AND TOMORROW. FROM SUNDAY ONWARDS, AS THE SYSTEM WEAKENS, THE MAIN FLOWS RESUME AT LOWER LEVELS. THE SYSTEM RESUMES A SOUTH-EASTERLY MOVEMENT ALONG THE SOUTH-WESTERN EDGE OF THE RIDGE.

IN TERMS OF INTENSITY, AFTER ITS SHORT PASSAGE TO THE STRONG TROPICAL STORM STAGE TODAY, CANDICE IS EXPERIENCING A STRENGTHENING OF THE NORTH TO NORTH-WESTERLY WIND SHEAR AND AN INTRUSION OF DRY AIR APPROACHING THE CENTER OF THE SYSTEM.

IN ADDITION, THE ARRIVAL OF COLDER WATERS TO THE SOUTH MEANS THAT CANDICE WILL WEAKEN OVER THE NEXT 24 HOURS, THEN EVOLVE INTO AN EXTRATROPICAL DEPRESSION AS IT FILLS IN FROM SUNDAY ONWARDS.

NO IMPACT ON LAND.