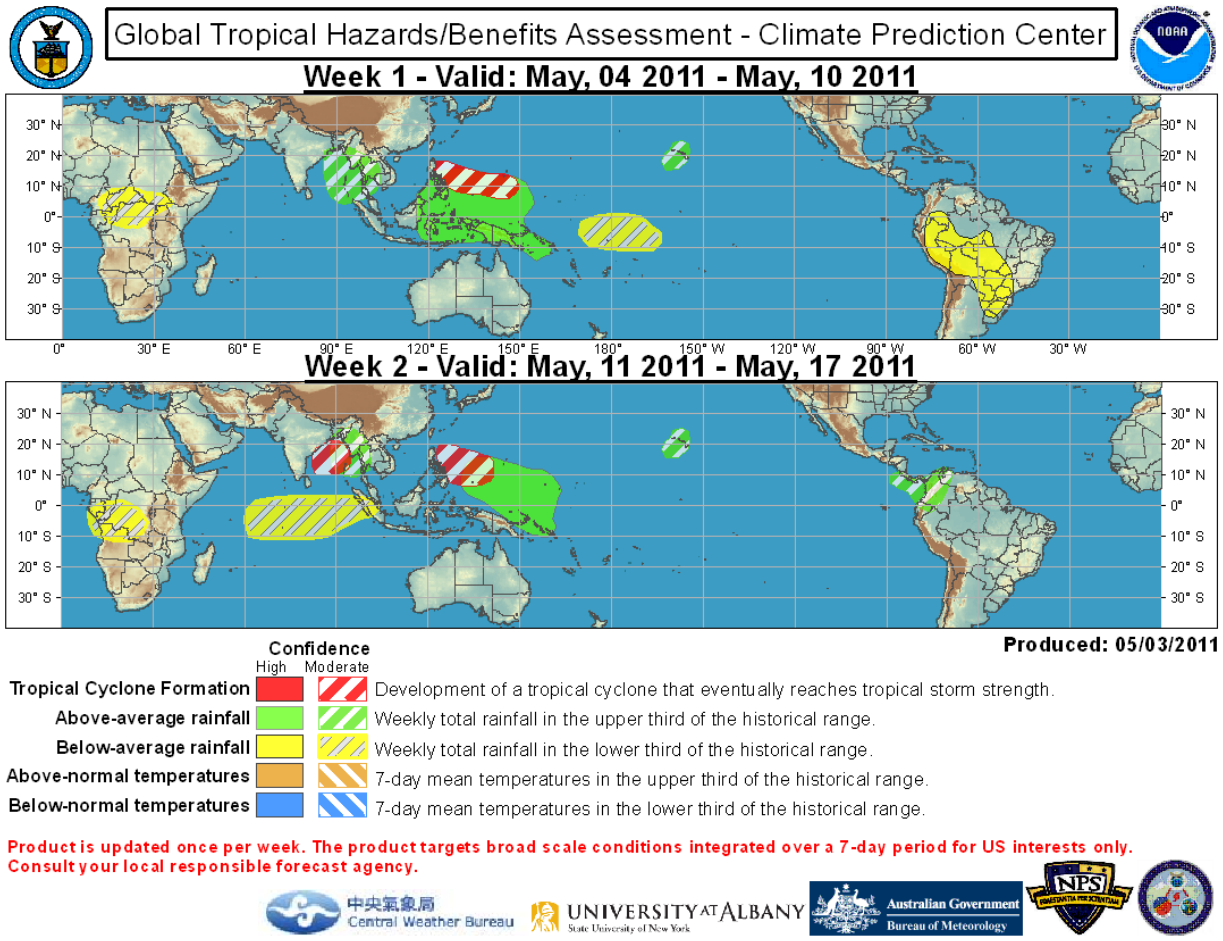

Continuing and weakening La Nina conditions provided the environment for enhanced rainfall over the eastern Maritime Continent, with suppressed rainfall observed over portions of eastern Africa, the western Indian Ocean, and Central America during the past week. There were also strong enhanced rainfall anomalies over southern India and portions of Southeast Asia.

The MJO signal is showing signs of strengthening, although some of the recent strengthening measured by the index is likely from other modes of tropical variability. The MJO is forecast to strengthen with the enhanced rainfall phase propagating eastward at a slower pace than currently observed, as the current observations are highly influenced by an atmospheric Kelvin Wave.

During Week-1, the MJO is expected to constructively interfere with the remaining atmospheric response of the ENSO cycle (La Nina) and produce enhanced rainfall from southeast Asia to, and across, the maritime continent. This would also make tropical cyclogenesis more likely across the western North Pacific. As the MJO moves eastward, increased moisture is favored to impact Hawaii. The suppressed rainfall phase of the MJO should enhance dry conditions over central South America and Central Africa.

During Week-2, the enhanced rainfall phase of the MJO is forecast to continue to move eastward, continuing the potential for enhanced rainfall over Hawaii, the easternmost portions of the Maritime continent, southeast Asian, northwest South America. The suppressed rainfall phase of the MJO should support below-average precipitation across portions of south-central Africa and from the central Indian Ocean to the western Maritime continent. The threat of tropical cyclogenesis is likely to be elevated across the Bay of Bengal early in Week-2 as shear is forecast to weaken during late Week-1. Additionally, the potential for tropical cyclone formation should remain high east of the Philippines early in Week-2.