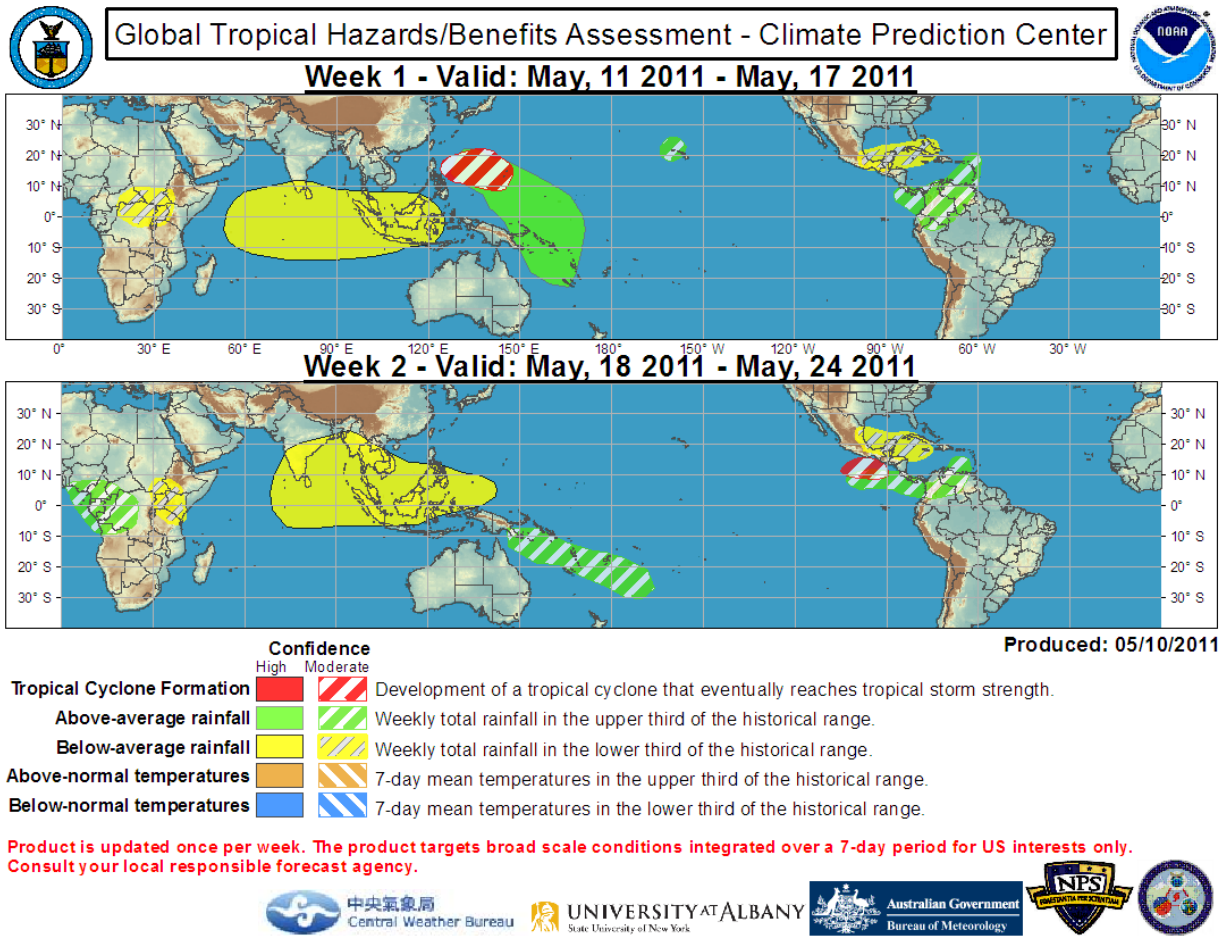

Continuing La Nina conditions and a robust intraseasonal oscillation provided the environment for an area of enhanced rainfall stretching from the Philippines across Indonesia to the Solomon Islands. Enhanced rainfall was also observed across northern South America. Suppressed rainfall was observed across central Africa, from Ethiopia to Equitorial Guinea and across the Indian Ocean.

The MJO signal strengthened considerably during the past week and indices indicated a rapid eastward propagation of the signal. Some of the recent activity is associated with an atmospheric Kelvin Wave, which move faster than MJO events. Model guidance continues to suggest a decrease in the propagation speed during the forecast period.

During Week-1, the MJO is expected to destructively interfere with the remaining atmospheric response of the ENSO cycle (La Nina). The enhanced rainfall area should be further east than observed in association with any event during the past 6 months as the La Nina is weakening, but the overall size of the area of enhanced precipitation should be much smaller than when the signals constructively interfere. The convectively suppressed phase of the MJO is expected to contribute to dry conditions

from central Africa to Indonesia. The MJO and mid-latitude influences are favor increased odds for dry conditions across northern central America, the Greater Antilles and the Bahamas with wet conditions across southern central america, northern south america, and the Lesser Antilles. The current forecast for the convectively enhanced phase of the MJO, La Nina, and recent SST anomalies support enahnced tropical cyclone formation chances east of the Philippines.

During Week-2, the convectively enhanced phase fo the MJO is forecast to move across the Western Hemisphere. This should yield an enhanced threat for tropical cyclogenesis across the eastern north Pacific, although chances are still quite low given that overall chances for formation of a tropical cyclone in this region, during May, are quite low. Enhanced rainfall is likely near the Gulf of Guinea and the islands of the south Pacific while the convectively suppressed area should shift northward into southern Asia and the Philippines. Drier than average conditions are expected to persist across portions of the Caribbean and Central America during Week-2.