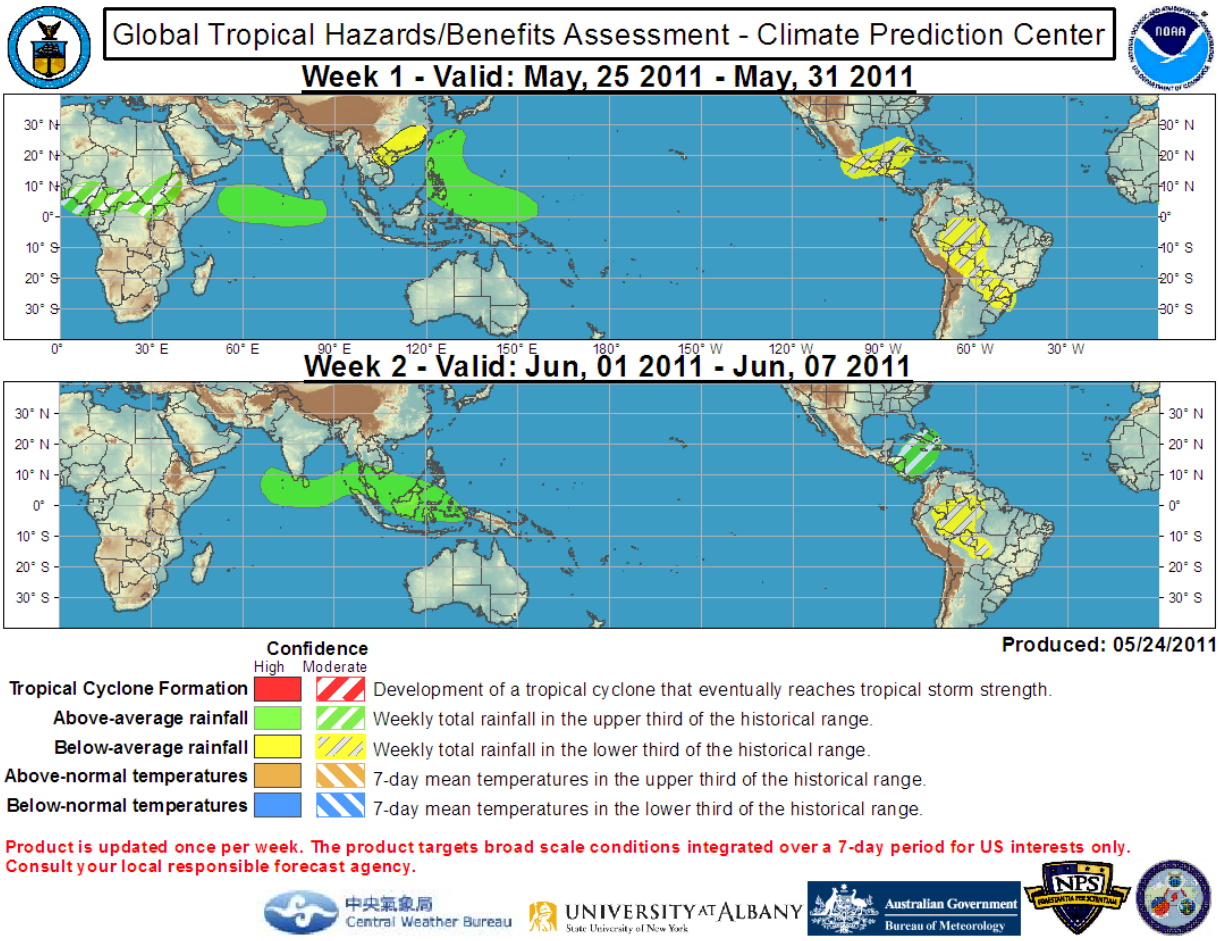

The remaining MJO signal that has affected the global tropics during the past few weeks is expected to move across the Indian Ocean during this assessment period. During Week-1, the MJO should continue to destructively interfere with the weakening longer period La Nina signal. The interference is expected to be less than last week. Some potential for constructive interference between the two signals exists during the Week-2 period.

The MJO signal showed some eastward propagation last week, but weakened significantly. Currently, the forecasts of the MJO index indicate a weak signal during the next two weeks. These forecasts are in part being affected by a combination of the residual MJO signal moving through Africa and the western Indian Ocean (WH phases 8 and 1) and the enhanced convective signal across parts of the western Pacific, primarily associated with Typhoon Songda.

During Week-1, the MJO and other tropical forcings favor above-average precipitation across equatorial Africa and the Indian Ocean. Typhoon Songda and above-average SST's are likely to result in above-average precipitation across the western North Pacific, including the Philippines and southern Japan.

Below-average precipitation is most likely across extreme southeast China, Central America and portions of South America from Western Brazil to Uruguay.

Week-2 should bring wetter than average conditions to Southern Asia, most of Indonesia, and from Central America to the Greater Antilles. Drier-than-average conditions are most likely from western Brazil to Bolivia. Week-2 also marks the India Meteorological Department's forecast start of the southwest monsoon across Kerala, a state in southwest India. This is consistent with the latest dynamical model forecasts and the latest Global Tropical Hazards and Benefits Assessment.