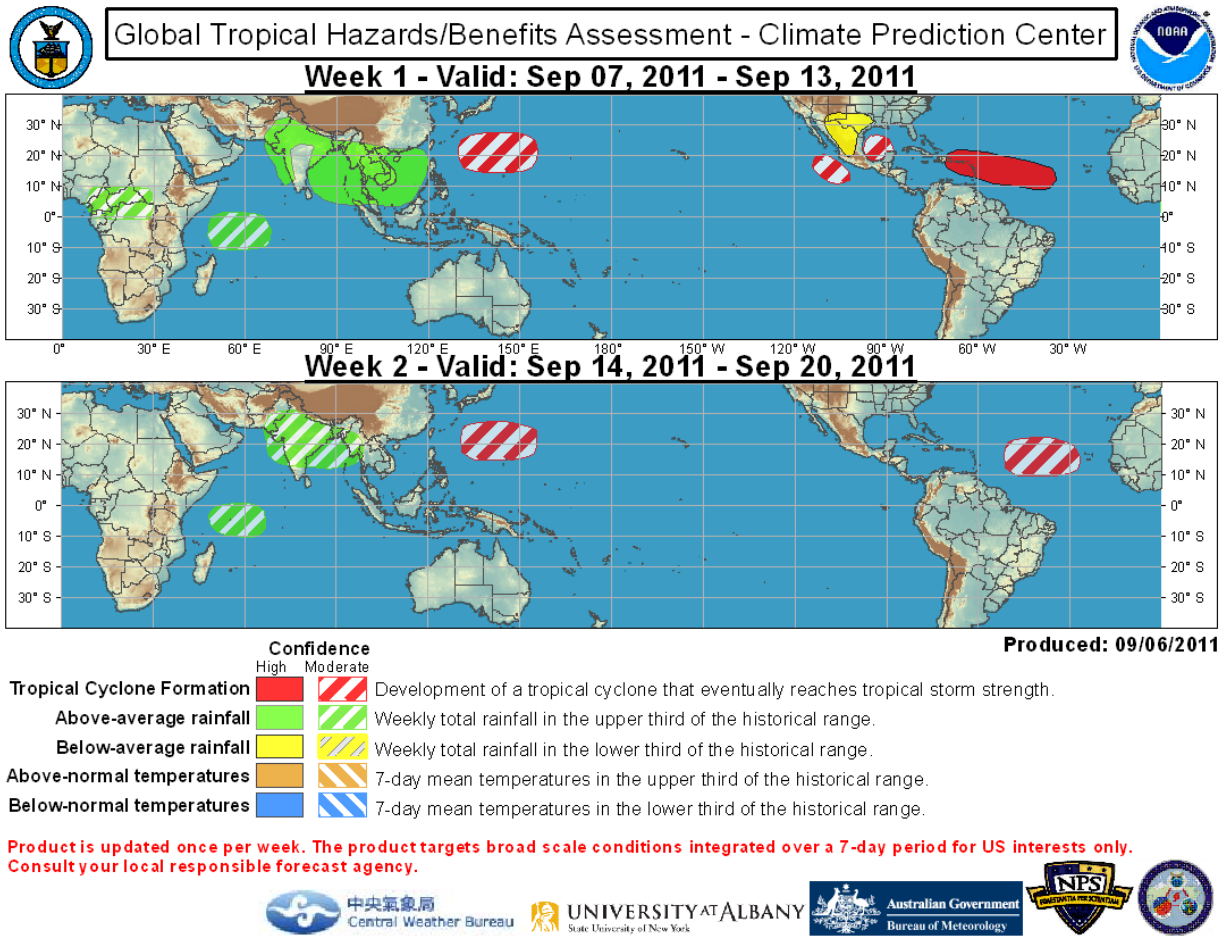

The MJO index amplitude decreased during the past week and other modes of tropical subseasonal variability remain generally weak. During the past seven days, enhanced rainfall was observed across the western Indian Ocean, most of India, and the northwest Pacific, including very heavy rainfall in Japan associated with Tropical Storm Talas. Enhanced rainfall was also observed in the Gulf of Mexico and in the southeast United States, along the track of Tropical Storm Lee and its remnants.

Tropical Depression Eight was short-lived in the eastern Pacific along the Mexican coast. Hurricane Katia continues to move northwestward in the western Atlantic, but is expected to remain offshore of the U.S. Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Noru developed in the northwest Pacific and is moving northward, east of Japan.

Most dynamical model MJO index forecasts indicate a weak MJO signal during the upcoming 1-2 week period. These forecasts, along with other recent observations, indicate the MJO is expected to remain weak and is not expected to contribute substantially to anomalous tropical convection across the global tropics during the period at this time.

During Week-1, an enhanced monsoon flow and a combination of a weak westerly moving Rossby wave and a weak eastward moving atmospheric Kelvin wave are expected to enhance rainfall in western India, the Bay of Bengal, Southeast Asia, and the South China Sea. Primarily, above average sea surface temperatures are likely to enhance rainfall in the western equatorial Indian Ocean. Lower tropospheric convergence over central Africa is expected to enhance rainfall in the region, while a ridge of high pressure and anomalous northerly flow is expected to suppress convection in north-central Mexico.

A moderate chance of tropical cyclone development exists in the northwest Pacific and eastern Pacific. An area of low pressure over very warm waters in the Bay of Campeche has a moderate chance of becoming a tropical cyclone in the Gulf of Mexico. Model guidance has an increasing threat for tropical cyclone development in the western Atlantic in the next couple days where a disturbance is showing signs of development. Please refer to the National Hurricane Center at www.nhc.noaa.gov for updates on the tropical systems near North America.

During week-2, signals are rather weak for anomalous convection across the global tropics. However, monsoon flow is expected to remain enhanced across most of India, the Bay of Bengal, and parts of Southeast Asia. Model guidance and above average sea surface temperatures also favor enhanced convection in the western Indian Ocean. Moderate chances for tropical cyclone development are expected to continue in the northwest Pacific and the main development region of the eastern tropical Atlantic as robust easterly waves continue to exit Africa.