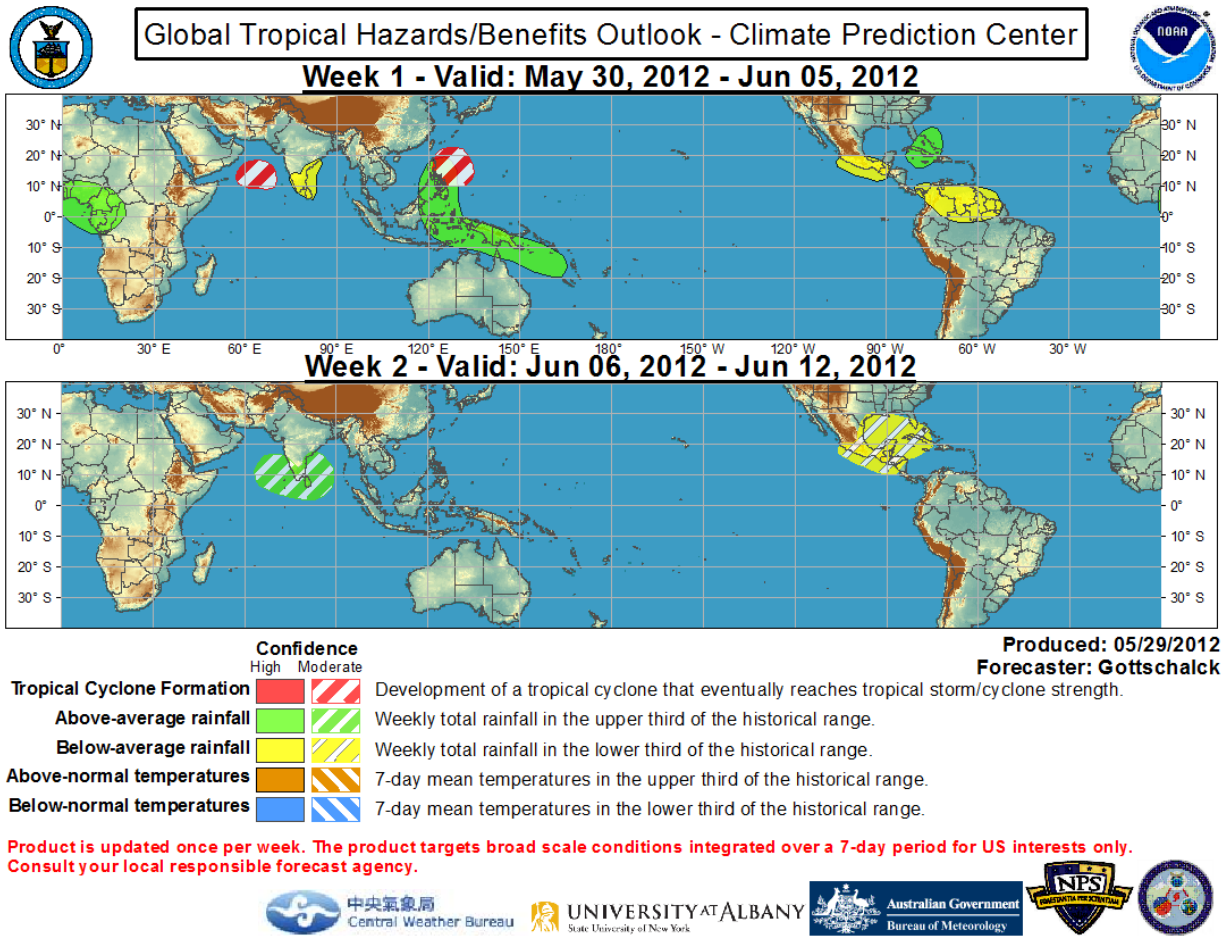

The MJO remains weak and much of the pattern of anomalous tropical convection continues to be related to higher frequency variability such as atmospheric Kelvin and equatorial Rossby waves, as well as tropical storm activity. Enhanced convection was observed across many areas during the past week and included parts of the eastern Indian Ocean, Maritime continent, equatorial Africa, central Mexico and the Caribbean. Suppressed convection was observed over southern India and northern South America. Hurricane Bud impacted parts of coastal central Mexico earlier in the week and Tropical Storm Beryl produced torrential rains over portions of the Southeast recently.

The latest forecasts of the MJO index from dynamical models indicate continued ill-defined, incoherent or weak MJO activity during the period as several different areas of enhanced convection are likely to remain active. The MJO did not play any substantial role in the forecast this week and La Nina has already transitioned to ENSO neutral conditions. The outlooks are based on an assessment of the current atmospheric Kelvin and equatorial Rossby wave activity and numerical model guidance.

During Week-1, the enhanced phase of an atmospheric Kelvin wave and model guidance favors enhanced rainfall for the Gulf of Guinea region of Africa. Model guidance also supports elevated chances of above-average rainfall for the Philippines, parts of the Maritime continent and areas near the Caribbean and the Bahamas. Drier-than-average conditions are favored for parts of Mexico, Central America and northern South America. The Indian monsoon appears somewhat delayed this year and so drier-than average conditions are indicated for portions of the southern Indian sub-continent and this is supported by some model guidance.

Although the chances are low, there is some potential for tropical cyclone development across the Arabian Sea associated with an equatorial Rossby wave and is strongly indicated by the ensemble GFS. The ensemble GFS also favors potential development east of the Philippines during the period.

For Week-2, monsoon rainfall is expected to increase near India and is supported by some model guidance. Parts of Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico are likely to see drier-than-average conditions during the period.