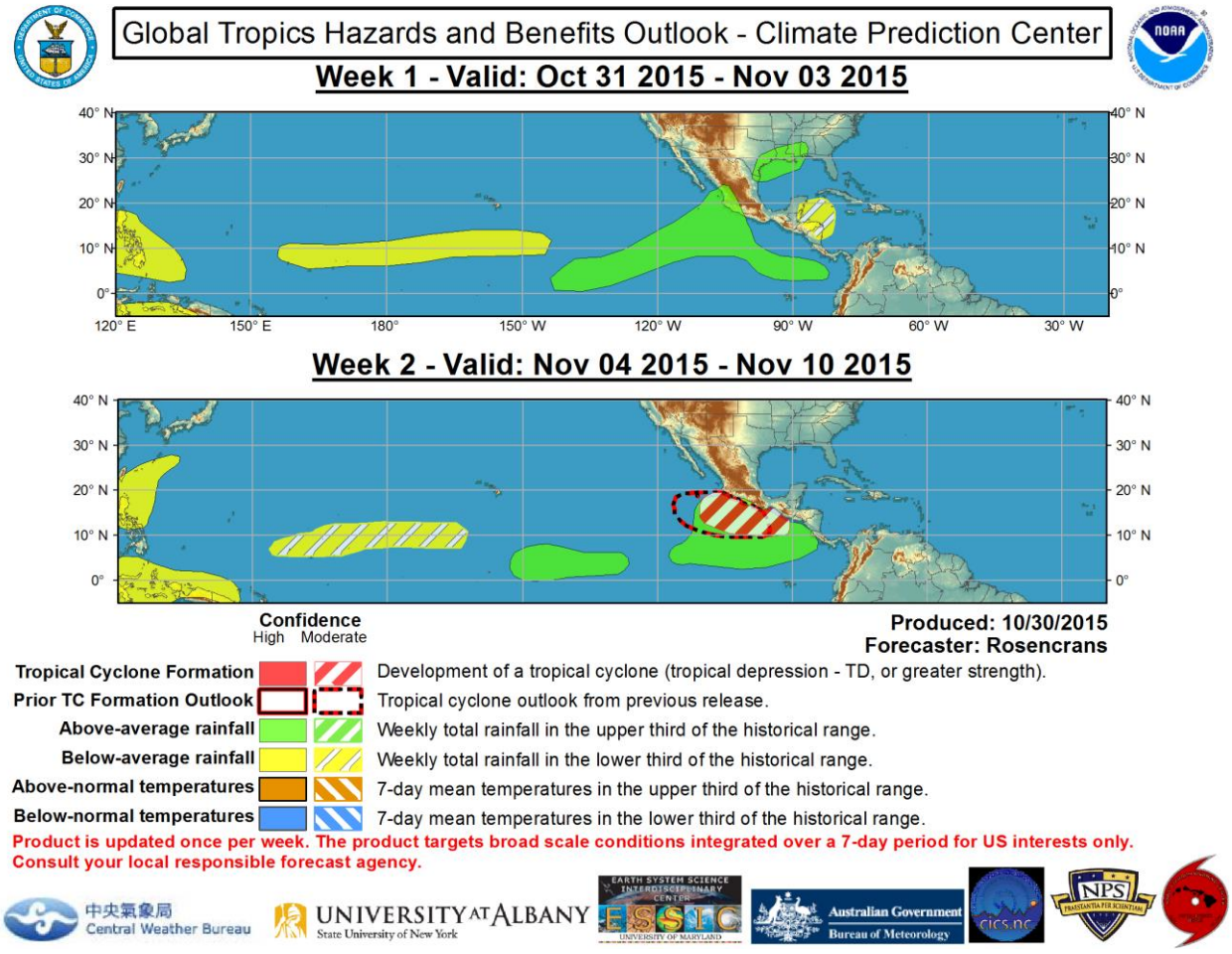

The CPC velocity potential based index and the Wheeler-Hendon RMM based index continue to show some eastward propagation of a signal over the western Indian Ocean through the next week to 10 days. Longer term models indicate that the signal is likely to diminish as it begins to destructively interfere with the ongoing El Nino.

During the past few days, Tropical Cyclone Chapala developed and rapidly intensified over the Arabian Sea. No other tropical cyclone activity is likely during the next 4 days. During the second week of the outlook period, tropical cyclone formation odds beging to increase south of Hawaii and near the Pacific Coast of Central America. Confidence in a tropical cyclone formation near Hawaii is low, while near the coast of Central America, confidence is higher.

Very little changes were made to the original GTH outlook. Above average rains are still likely over the South-Central CONUS and the eastern Pacific, while below average rains are likely from south of Hawaii (along 10N) to just west of the Date Line, and near the Philippines. During the second week of the

outlook period, the area of below average rains is likely to shift slightly westward, while above average rains are likely to expand over the eastern Pacific.

---------- Previous discussion follows. ----------

The ongoing, strong El Nino continues to remain a major contributor to the pattern of tropical convective anomalies. Some MJO related indices are indicating related activity over the western Indian Ocean. Some convection is present there on satellite imagery, but the relationships to a coherent and sustainable mode of variability are yet to be determined. A similar pattern in tropical convection developed during the El Nino events of 1982-1983 and 1997-1998.

Upper-level velocity potential anomalies indicate a wave-2 pattern over the global tropics, a change from the previous couple of months, which could be related to an emerging MJO. Through Week-2, dynamical models depict a slight weakening of this newly emerged signal, with some eastward propagation. Statistical tools indicate more eastward propagation of the signal. The resultant forecast location for enhanced convection would be in opposition to the ongoing El Nino, so the scenario of a robust convective anomaly propagating to the Maritime Continent is deemed unlikely.

During the past week, Hurricane Patricia formed over the eastern Pacific and moved northward into Mexico. Hurricane Olaf continues to churn northeast of Hawaii. Tropical depression 26W had a short lifespan (6 hours) over the western Pacific. During the next two weeks, the most likely area for tropical cyclone formation is the Arabian Sea, followed by the Bay of Bengal and South Indian Ocean. Dynamical models and analysis/extrapolation of modes of tropical convective variability all support an increased threat over the Indian Ocean. During Week-2, the threat of tropical cyclone formation returns to the east Pacific, while a low confidence threat of tropical cyclone formation remains over the western Indian Ocean, particularly south of the equator.

During the next week, above average rains are likely over the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, and South Indian Ocean, aligned with a Kelvin Wave and the relaxation of the South Asian monsoon. Suppressed convection is likely over the Maritime Continent and west-central Pacific. Above average rainfall is likely over the East Pacific and near the northwest Gulf of Mexico. During Week-2, anomalously enhanced convection is likely over the East Pacific, with suppressed convection over the Maritime Continent and

potentially near the Date Line, along 10N. Additionally, some models are indicating a weak dry signal over central Brazil, but the signal is weak, so the confidence is low.

Forecasts for Africa are done in collaboration with CPC's Africa Desk and based on model forecast guidance and regional scale anomaly features.