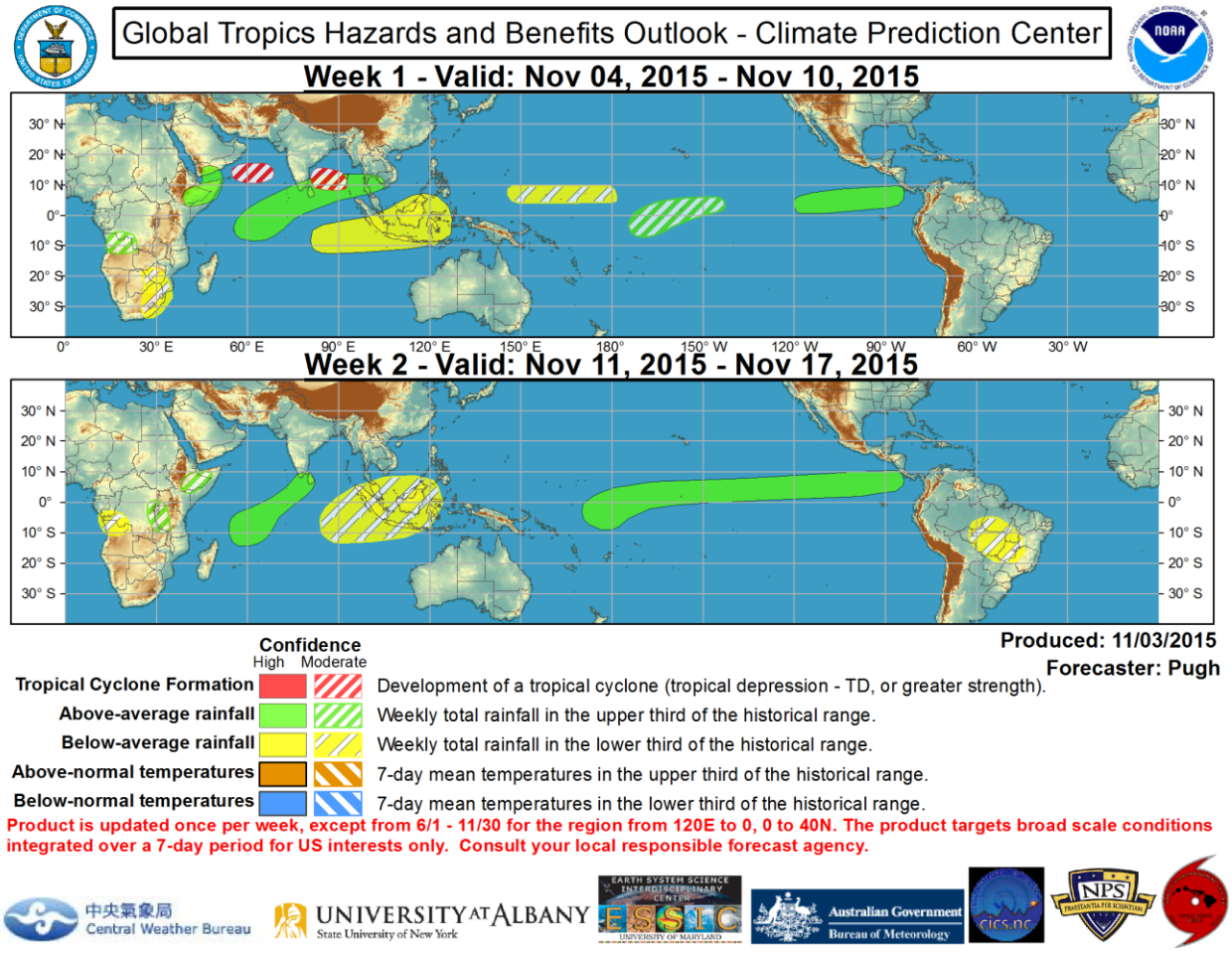

The MJO became more coherent during late October with upper-level divergence (convergence) anomalies shifting east across Africa (West Pacific). The Wheeler-Hendon RMM index and CPC MJO index based on 200-hpa Velocity Potential feature an increase in amplitude with a slight eastward propagation. Dynamical models indicate that this MJO signal is likely to weaken during the next two week as it destructively interferes with the background state associated with a strong El Nino.

Tropical Cyclone Chapala developed in the Arabia Sea on October 28 and rapidly intensified to a Category-4 cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 135 knots. On November 3, Chapala became the first Category-1 strength cyclone on record to make landfall in Yemen. Before dissipating, Chapala could result in heavy rainfall across parts of Yemen which typically receive only several inches of rainfall per year.

Enhanced convection is expected to become more widespread across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific during the next two weeks due to the ongoing, strong El Nino and a weakening MJO signal. The remainder of the above and below-average rainfall favored areas are based on CFS and ECMWF

precipitation forecasts along with El Nino precipitation composites for October-December. Moderate confidence exists for tropical cyclone (TC) development during Week-1 across the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal due to enhanced convection near these areas and above average sea surface temperatures. The GFS ensemble guidance also supports TC development across the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal during Week-1.

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