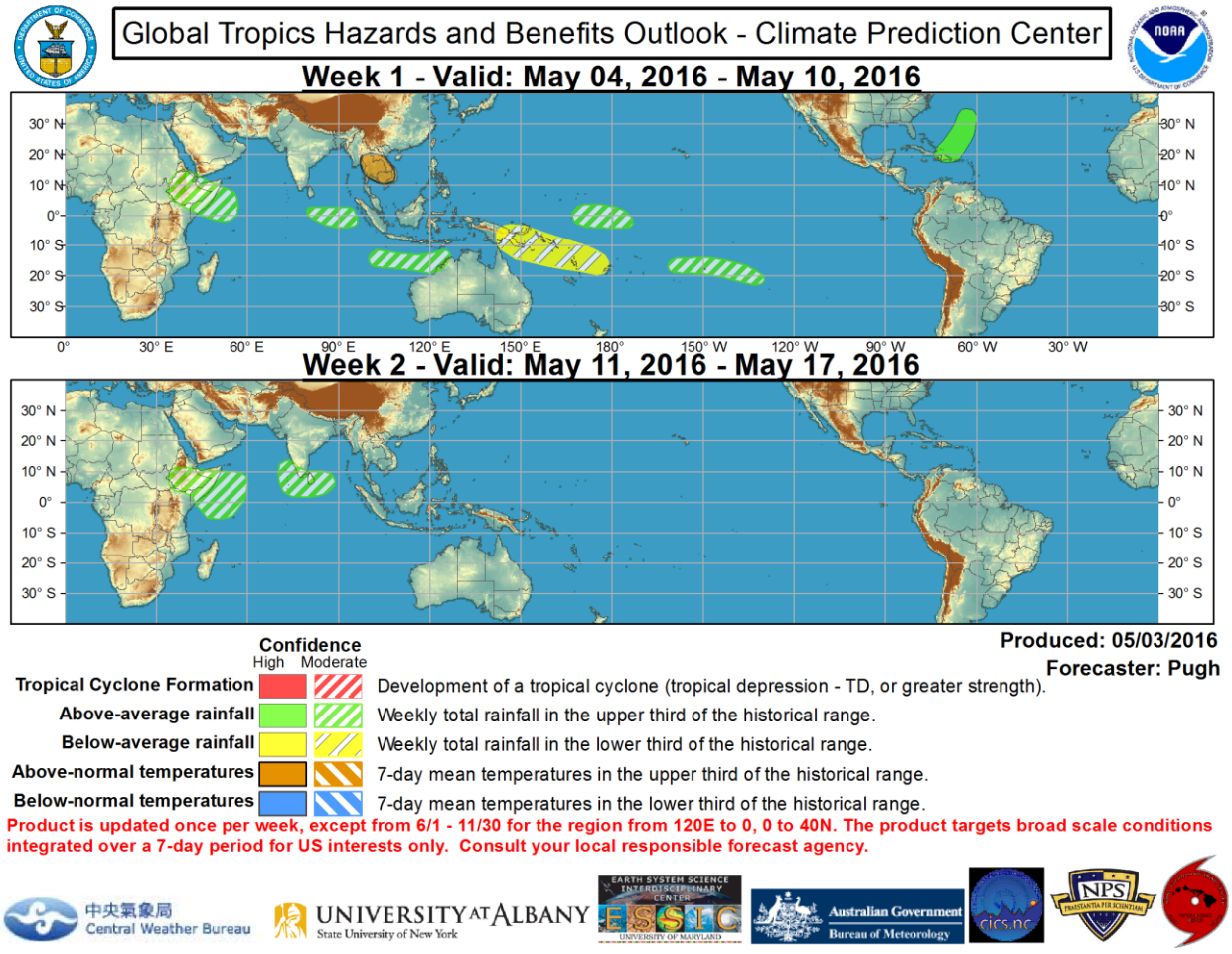

The MJO signal remained weak during the past week. The dynamical model MJO forecasts depict a continued weak signal during Week-1, but the ECMWF model indicates an increase in the amplitude of the RMM index over the Indian Ocean during Week-2. Multiple atmospheric Kelvin Waves and an equatorial Rossby Wave are evident in the observed Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) anomaly field. Although El Nino is waning, its atmospheric effects continue with areas of enhanced (suppressed) convection noted across parts of the central Pacific (Maritime Continent).

The precipitation outlook during Week-1 is based largely on CFS and ECMWF model guidance, along with some influence from an equatorial Rossby Wave, atmospheric Kelvin Waves, and the waning El Nino. Above-median rainfall is favored across parts of the central Pacific, Indian Ocean, Kimberley Coast of Australia, and the Horn of Africa. The highest confidence for above-median rainfall during Week-1 exists from Hispaniola and Puerto Rico north to Bermuda, where an amplifying mid-latitude trough is likely to interact with tropical moisture. A heat wave affected Southeast Asia during April and above-normal temperatures are likely to persist through at least Week-1 across Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand.

During Week-2, the CFS and ECMWF models agree that above-median rainfall will continue across the Horn of Africa and western Indian Ocean. Above-median rainfall forecast across far southern India, Sri Lanka, and parts of the central Indian Ocean is related to the potential for a developing MJO by mid-May. Model guidance and the waning El Nino support above-median rainfall across parts of the south-central Pacific. Confidence is too low to depict any favored below-median rainfall areas on this outlook map.

Tropical cyclone development is unlikely across the global tropics during the next two weeks. This inactive period for tropical cyclone genesis is typical for early May.

Forecast over Africa are made in consultation with CPC's international desk, and can represent local-scale conditions in addition to global-scale variability.