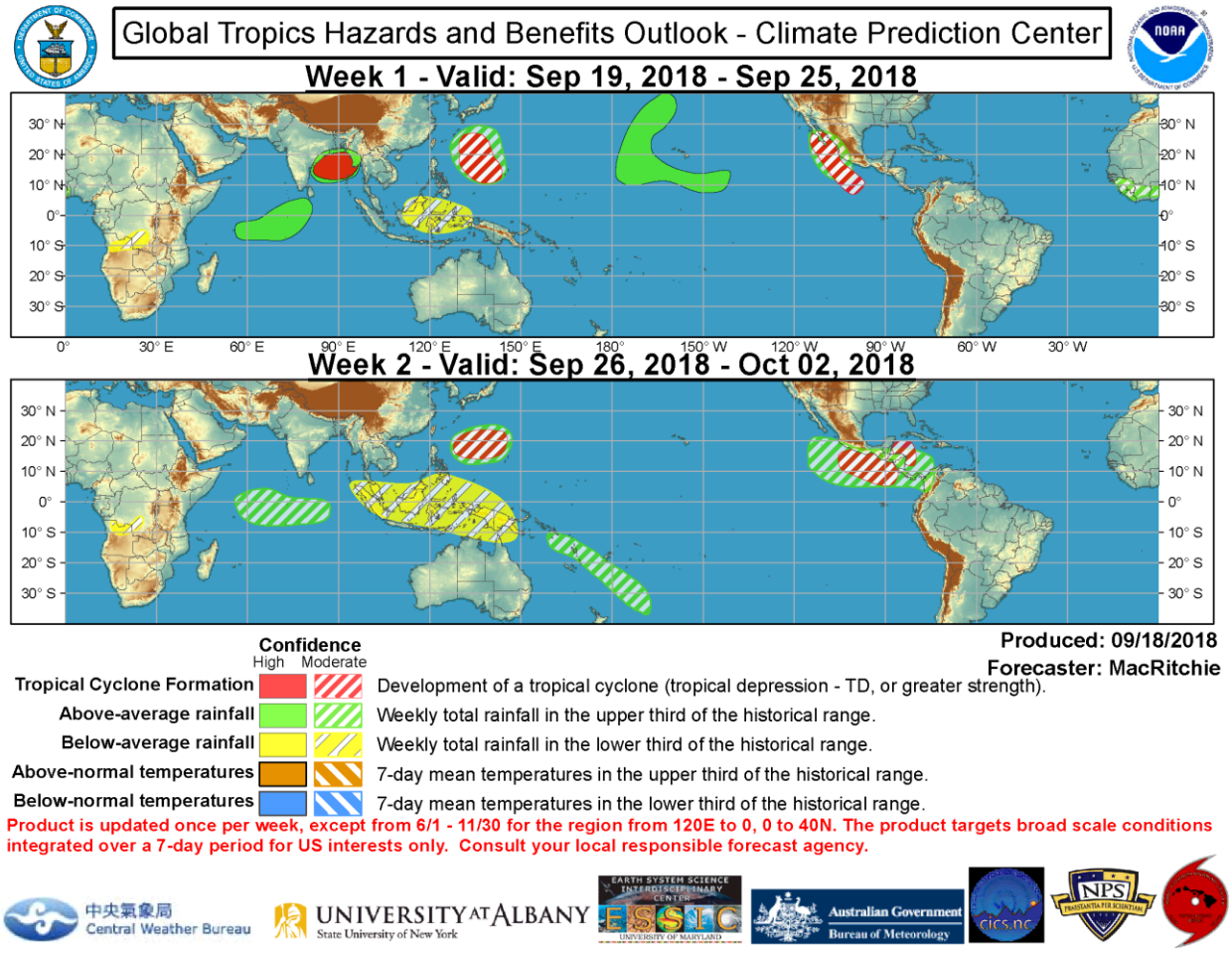

The MJO is currently weak, but model guidance is overwhelmingly favoring the MJO to strengthen and emerge in phases 8 or 1 by the beginning of Week-2. Support from the GEFS, CFS, ECMWF, and BOMM models suggest that this is a high confidence forecast and the MJO's climatological phase 8 state is the basis of the Week-2 GTH forecast.

There are three areas of potential TC development during the forecast period. Convection in the Bay of Bengal is likely to form a TC within the next few days. The GFS suggests this will occur more quickly than the ECMWF does, but both models agree that there will be a TC, forecast to track northwest, in the Bay of Bengal by Thursday.

There is an area of possible TC development in the West Pacific, just west of Guam and the Mariana Islands. Warm SSTs and low shear create a favorable environment for TC formation, but model guidance is uncertain about development potential. The deterministic GFS creates a TC just west of Guam, which it forecasts to track north and become caught in the extratropical flow before reaching Japan by the end of the Week-1 period. The ECMWF is similar, but forms a weaker TC further west. The GFS ensemble

members are spread over about 20 degrees of longitude, suggesting significant positional uncertainty. The models remain split about the potential for TC development just west of the Week-1 region during the early part of Week-2, which we have included in our forecast. Interested parties are encouraged to monitor JTWC's updates for the latest information over the next few days.

Model guidance and the National Hurricane Center suggest that there is the potential for TC formation in the East Pacific just off the west coast of Central America during Week-1. This threat continues into Week-2, but is moved south and east. Models are split about whether a TC spins up in the East Pacific or Caribbean during Week-2, so we've posted a threat for both areas. We will monitor the situation and provide any necessary updates on Friday and again next Tuesday as we get closer to the potential formation period.

The MJO in phases 8 and 1 climatologically supports above-average rainfall in the west central Indian Ocean, which is included in our forecast and supported by ECMWF model guidance. The forecast MJO phase also supports below-average rainfall over the Maritime Continent.

Above-average rainfall south and west of Hawaii is expected during Week-1 as low pressure becomes wrapped up in the extra-tropical flow. Rainfall should fall back to climatological values as the MJO strengthens in phases 8/1 during Week-2.

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