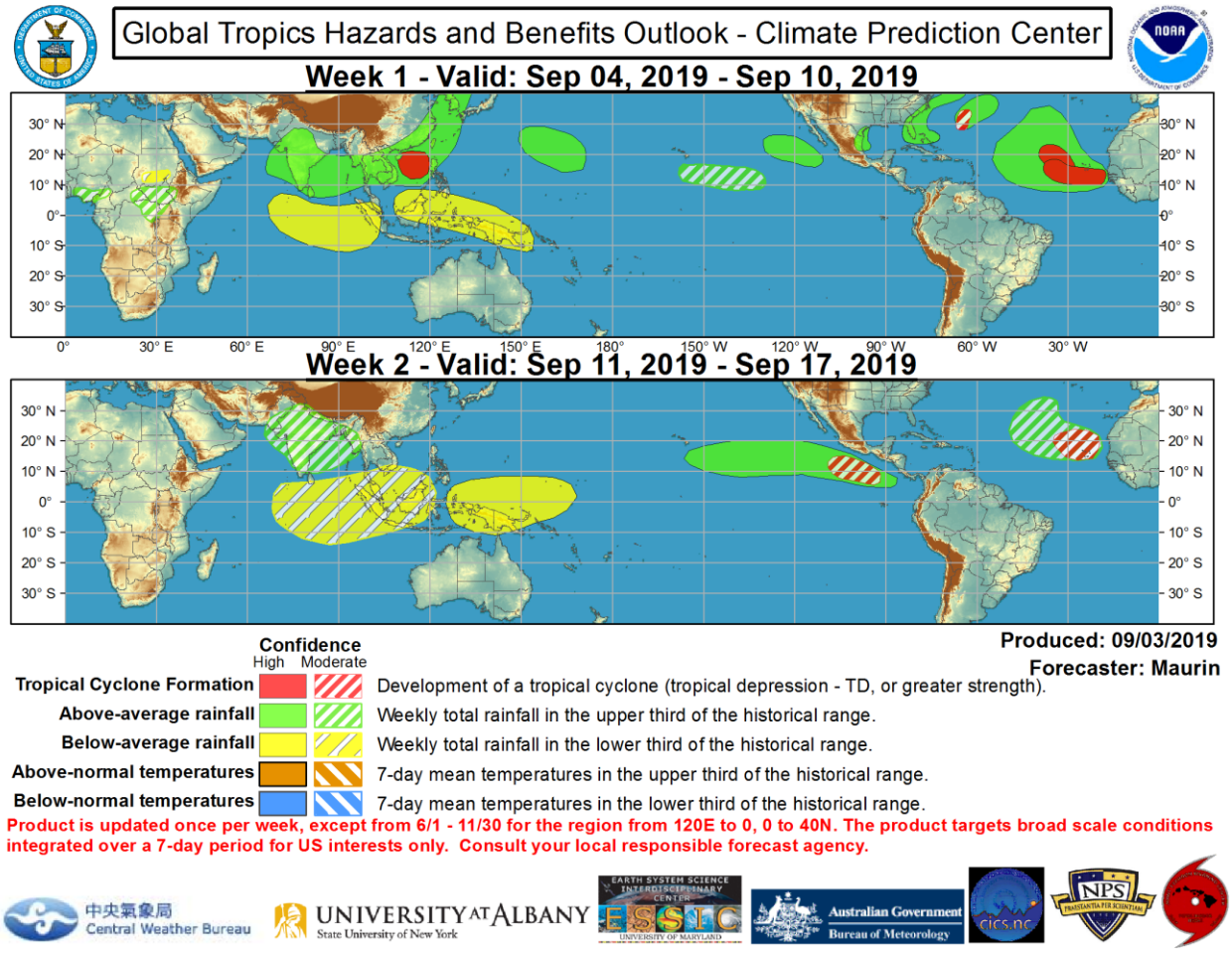

After a brief period of MJO resurgence mid-August over the Maritime Continent, the intraseasonal signal has remained incoherent and weak. It continues to fall well within the unit circle on the RMM index, and shows little evidence of eastward propagation through the end of the month, remaining in Phases 4/5. Dynamical guidance indicates a wide spread of solutions for the MJO during early September. ECMWF shows some push for a more organized signal and eastward propagation over the Pacific during the next two weeks, though the strength of the signal flirts with the unit circle boundary. The large spread between the ensemble members indicates that consensus on this solution is not very clear. The GEFS and CFS models are less indicative of MJO activity, showing the signal remaining weak and no real coherent eastward movement. Whatever MJO signal emerges over the next two weeks is likely to be fairly weak and not a huge player for the global tropics. In addition, the mid-summer shift to ENSO neutral conditions means that the controlling features for the tropics are shorter term variations, like Rossby and Kelvin waves, as well as tropical cyclones.

Through the next few days, focus remains on Hurricane Dorian in Atlantic. Though not currently forecast to make landfall along the Florida coast, impacts are still likely for eastern Florida over the next two days with rain, winds and storm surge, as well as parts of the Georgia coast and the Carolinas later this week.

For more information and updates on the forecast for this storm and expected rainfall amounts, please check the National Hurricane Center and the Weather Prediction Center's websites. The Atlantic is expected to remain active in week-1 as a Kelvin wave moves over the tropical Atlantic. Tropical Depression 7 formed this morning in the Gulf of Mexico, and is expected to track toward northwestern Mexico. Two systems are likely to develop (90% and 60% chances of development from NHC) off the coast of western Africa and a wave off the East Coast has a 40% chance of development over the next 5 days. In the eastern Pacific, Juliette is forecast to track west-northwest, so Gulf surges into the Southwest are not likely from this system. No additional systems are forecast to form in week-1 for the eastern Pacific at this time. The western Pacific has also become very active over the past few days, with 3 recent formations of TD Kajiki, TS Lingling and TS 14W. Another system for development in the South China Sea is currently being highlighted by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center for early week-1.

In week-2, the tropics are likely to remain active with tropical cyclone development. Wind shear values over the main development region (MDR) in the Atlantic are forecast to remain anomalously low, creating a good environment for cyclone development. As a forecast wave moves off of western Africa and into the tropics during week-2, it should be primed for TC development, leading to moderate confidence of cyclogenesis. A building subtropical ridge may force additional TCs toward the Lesser Antilles in Week-2. Another region of moderate confidence in cyclogenesis is highlighted in the eastern Pacific, where both the GEFS and ECMWF models show a good consensus on anomalous rainfall, and a possible closed system forming mid-week. There are a few additional systems of interest forecast in the western Pacific, but confidence in these forecasts is low at this time, so they have not been included on this map.

For the precipitation forecasts, most of these are related to tropical cyclone activity, as has been already extensively outlined. In week-1 and week-2, large swaths of below normal precipitation are expected for the Maritime Continent. As stated earlier, the weak MJO is currently hovering in phases 4/5. The weak footprint suppressed envelope is likely aiding to below normal rainfall over Indian Ocean and Maritime Continent in week-1, with a slight shift eastward in week-2. Forecasts over Africa are made in consultation with CPCs international desk, and can represent local-scale conditions in addition to global-scale variability.