



## METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

Branch of the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation

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### BULLETIN No: 3

#### \*\*\* TROPICAL STORM WARNING STILL IN EFFECT AS POTENTIAL TROPICAL CYCLONE 18 STRENGTHENS...\*\*\*

A **TROPICAL STORM WARNING** remains in effect for Jamaica as the developing Area of Low Pressure over the west-central Caribbean Sea moves closer to the island, and has the potential to develop into a tropical cyclone by Monday morning. This means that tropical storm conditions pose a possible threat to Jamaica within 36 hours.

At 10:00 p.m. **Potential Tropical Cyclone Number 18** was centred near latitude 13.3 degrees North, longitude 76.9 degrees West. This is about 520 kilometres (325 miles) south of Kingston, Jamaica or 565 kilometres (350 miles) southeast of Negril Point, Jamaica.

The Disturbance is moving toward the north near 6 mph (9 km/h) and a turn more north-westward is forecast on Monday and expected to continue for the next few days.

Maximum sustained winds are near 55 km/h (35 mph) with higher gusts. Although the deep convection is not quite organized enough to designate **Potential Tropical Cyclone Number 18** as a tropical storm at this time, it is expected to become a tropical storm on Monday with additional strengthening forecast after that time. The system could be near hurricane intensity as it passes near the Cayman Islands in the northwestern Caribbean.

On the forecast track, the Disturbance is expected to continue moving towards Jamaica tonight and, **be near Jamaica by late Monday evening**, and near or over the Cayman Islands late Tuesday into Wednesday. While the system is in the vicinity of Jamaica, it is expected to produce **locally heavy rainfall and strong, gusty winds**, primarily over eastern and southern parishes tomorrow and Tuesday. Landslides should also be anticipated in vulnerable sections of the island.

Over the marine areas, the forecast is for widespread showers and thunderstorms, which may be heavy at times, **with strong gusty winds up to tropical storm force** to affect all marine zones on Monday, especially inshore and offshore the south coast.

All small craft operators including fishers from the cays and banks should be arriving in port to start preparations for safe harbour.

The Meteorological Service continues to monitor the progress of Potential Tropical Cyclone Number 18, and all interests are encouraged to pay special attention to further Releases.