

GMDSS Report

NATIONAL GMDSS REPORT REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS MAURITIUS METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

The National Meteorological Services has the responsibility, under the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS), for using Maritime forecasts for METAREA VIII(S) with the excellent collaboration of Météo-France (Reunion). The Meteorological Services also includes the Tropical Cyclone warnings, issued by the Regional Specialized Meteorological Census (RSMC), Météo-France, Reunion in its Maritime Bulletin.

The **scheduled bulletin** comprises 4 parts.

- (a) Part I: Warning recall
- (b) part II: General Synopsis
- (c) Part III: Area forecasts for the next 24 hours.

For each sub-area or groups of sub-areas, the sub-areas are subdivided into East, South, West and North of metareas, if needed.

The following parameters are included in the forecasts:

- (i) wind
- (ii) sea-state
- (iii) swell of height $\geq 3\text{m}$
- (iv) significant weather, if any
- (v) visibility of < 5 nautical miles.

- (d) Part IV: outlooks

The warning bulletins are included in the Part I of the scheduled bulletin, or as a special bulletin at other times. It comprises the radius of occurrence of near gale force winds or higher winds, sea state and the description of the phenomenon generating the strong winds.

Preparation of Maritime Bulletins

The Forecasters on duty have at their disposal, a range of satellite data to monitor the location and movements of tropical and other systems carrying adverse weather conditions in the area of interest. NOAA and Meteosat satellite Imageries are manipulated through Synergie and Meteosat Second Generation (MSG) workstations.

Satellite derived winds are super imposed with the analysed synoptic charts and validated with the data from ship, earth stations and drifting buoys. Model outputs from European centres, Exeter, Arpige and the NOAA/NCEP are essential tools used for generating the high seas-forecasts.

GMDSS Checking System

The Mauritius Meteorological Services has no special equipment to check the GMDSS broadcasts from the satellite. The Meteorological Staff in Mauritius monitor the forecasts through the GMDSS website.

Issuance of Maritime Bulletins

The Meteorological Services issues meteorological safety bulletins for GMDSS at regular times:

- (a) 0115 UTC
- (b) 1315 UTC

Additional bulletins are issued in case of warning at:

- (a) 0730 UTC
- (b) 1930 UTC

These forecast messages are transmitted to the Mauritius Radio Services (MRS) and Port Louis Harbour radio through telefax, email and the WMO Global Telecommunication System (GTS) at the above fixed times, to be rebroadcast through satellites, Navtex and VHF. For the safety of local fishermen at sea in the coastal waters and in fishing banks, a special forecast is issued, which is aired through public and private Radio Channels. This bulletin is issued at 0000 UTC and 1200 UTC.

Broadcast of Marine forecasts

Through an agreement between the Mauritius Meteorological Services and Météo-France, the latter relays the shipping bulletin issued by Met Mauritius to INMARSAT satellite for rebroadcast.

The Mauritius Radio Services broadcast the regular bulletins by NAVTEX at the following times:

- (a) 0020 UTC
- (b) 0420 UTC
- (c) 1220 UTC
- (d) 1620 UTC

During warnings, a supplementary schedule becomes in force. In addition to the normal broadcast time, the supplementary warnings are also broadcast at:

- (a) 0730 UTC
- (b) 1330 UTC
- (c) 2230 UTC

Tests have been performed by the MRS, and a range of 400 km off the Northwestern coasts have been tested positive for reception of these broadcasts.

The MRS also broadcast the latest weather information available from the Meteorological Services through VHF Radio – channel 4 – 168.800 Mhz. The range covered is about 50 kilometres off the coasts of Mauritius. The Port Louis Harbour Radio (PHR) is another mean used to communicate the weather forecasts and its associated warnings to the Marine user community. The staff generally notifies all the ships and other listeners on 2182 Khz, a few minutes before broadcasting the high sea forecasts on the following frequency.

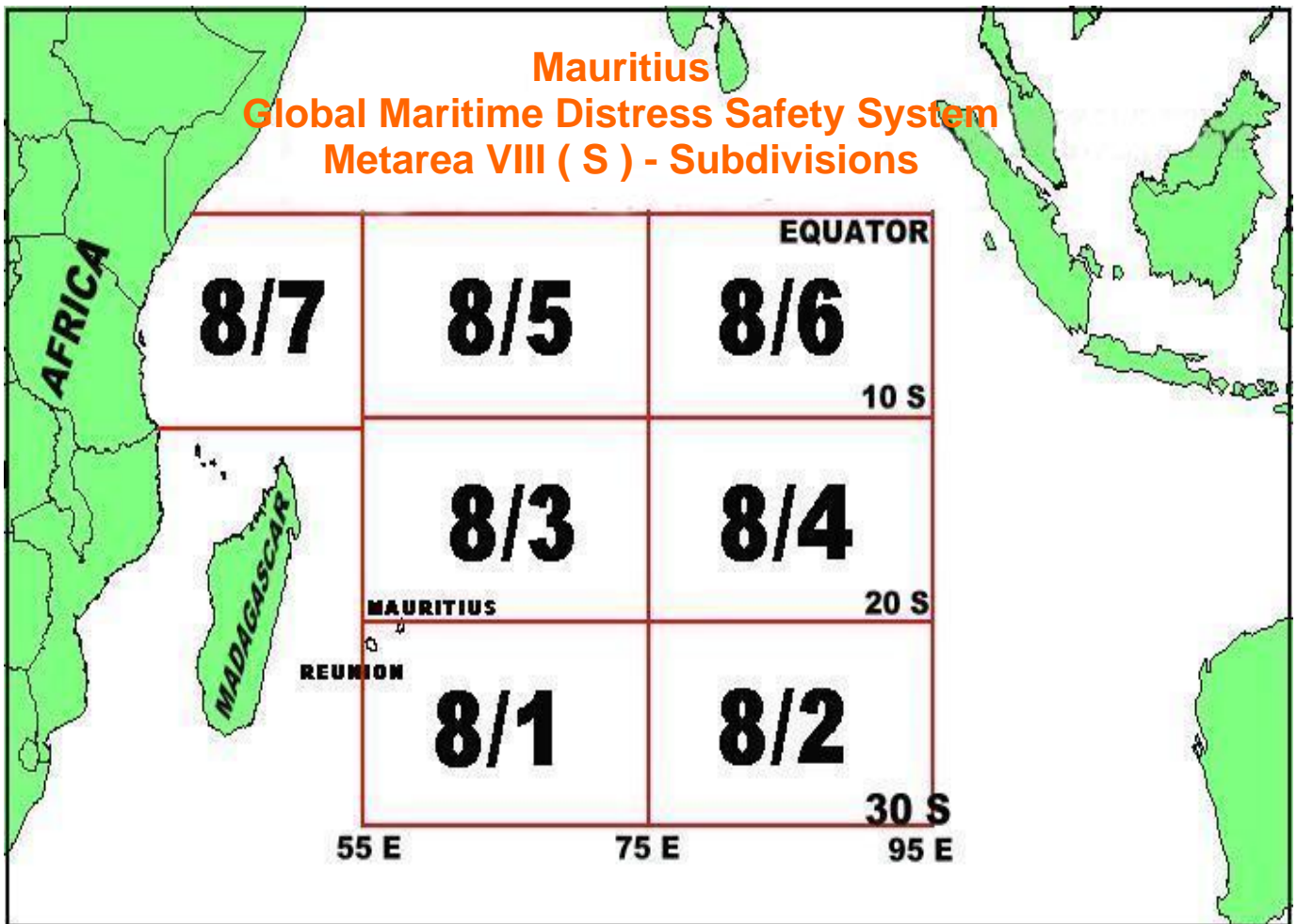
4402 KHZ at:

- (i) 0115 UTC
- (ii) 1315 UTC

For fishing vessels not possessing GMDSS equipments, or those who have not been able to copy the weather safety information, the Port Louis Harbour Radio broadcast the same on the following frequency.

8800 KHZ at:

- (i) 0205 UTC
- (ii) 1405 UTC



SHIPPING BULLETIN FOR METAREA VIII (S) ,
 METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES MAURITIUS ,
 MONDAY 11 DECEMBER 2006 AT 1300 UTC .

WIND SPEED IN KNOTS - SEA STATE - SIGNIFICANT WEATHER - VISIBILITY.

PART 1 : WARNING NIL

PART 2: GENERAL SYNOPSIS AT 1200 UT MONDAY 11 DECEMBER 2006 .

ITCZ AXIS ALONG 04S 45S 07S 55E 09S 60E 07S 67E 05S 75E.

EQUATORIAL TROUGH AXIS ALONG 04S 80E 05S 90E 05S 100E.

WAVE AXIS ALONG 13S 80E 17S 82E 20S 83E MOVING WEST 15 KT.

WAVE ALONG 23S 61E 26S 63E 29S 62E MOVING SLOWLY SOUTH.

HIGH 1026 HPA NEAR 31S 90E EXTENDS A RIDGE WITH AXIS ALONG 27S 75E 26S 55E.

TROUGH ALONG 25S 46E 30S 49E 35S 52E ALMOST STATIONARY.

PART 3: AREA FORECAST FOR NEXT 24 HOURS

8/1: EASTERLY TO EAST NORTH EASTERLY 15 IN NORTH BECOMING NORTH EASTERLY TO NORTHERLY 15 IN SOUTH. MODERATE. ISOLATED SHOWERS IN CENTRAL SOUTH. VISIBILITY MAINLY GOOD.

8/2: SOUTH EASTERLY 15-20 IN EAST AND EAST NORTH EASTERLY 15 IN WEST. LOCALLY ROUGH IN NORTH. VISIBILITY GOOD.

SOUTH 8/3: EASTERLY 15-20 GUSTING LOCALLY 30-35. LOCALLY ROUGH. ISOLATED SHOWERS IN EXTREME NORTH. POOR VISIBILITY IN SHOWERS.

NORTH 8/3: EAST SOUTH EASTERLY 15, LOCALLY GUSTING 25 , MODERATE TO LOCALLY ROUGH. SCATTERED SHOWERS WITH ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS . POOR VISIBILITY IN SHOWERS.

8/4: EAST SOUTH EASTERLY 15-20. GUSTING LOCALLY 30. MODERATE TO ROUGH . ISOLATED SHOWERS. VISIBILITY MODERATE.

WEST 8/5, EAST 8/7: MAINLY EASTERLY 10-15 IN SOUTH AND NORTH WESTERLY TO WESTERLY 10-15 IN NORTH BECOMING CLOCKWISE BY TOMORROW. MODERATE TO LOCALLY ROUGH. SCATTERED SHOWERS WITH RISK THUNDERY SHOWERS LOCALLY SQUALLY. VISIBILITY GOOD BECOMING POOR IN SHOWERS.

8/6 , EAST 8/5: EAST SOUTH EASTERLY 15-20 IN SOUTH AND SOUTH WESTERLY TO WESTERLY 15 IN NORTH. MODERATE TO LOCALLY ROUGH. ISOLATED SHOWERS. RISK ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS. MODERATE TO POOR IN SHOWERS.

WEST8/7: MAINLY NORTHERLY 10-15 BUT LOCALLY VARIABLE 10. MODERATE. ISLOLATED THUNDERY SHOWERS IN EAST. VISIBILITY MODERATE TO POOR IN SHOWERS.

PART 4: OUTLOOK FOR NEXT 24 HOURS:

LOW DEVELOPPING ON THE ITCZ WEST OF 60E BUT NO TROPICAL STORM EXPECTED.

T.O.O : 11/1230 UT