Date of Forecast: 8/9/2012

August 9-23: Medium-High Activity; Confidence 60%. Large-scale environmental conditions over the Atlantic should remain in a state favoring the genesis of new tropical cyclones. The convectively active phase of a strong eastward propagating convectively-coupled Kelvin wave (CCKW) is projected to pass over the tropical Atlantic during the next 1-5 days, increasing the threat for new genesis there.

A coherent MJO signal appears to be developing. The convectively active phase of the MJO, identified by filtered 200 hPa Velocity Potential anomalies, has amplified over the East Pacific (negative VP200 anomalies between 120W-90W). The MJO's convectively suppressed phase is currently over the Indian Basin (positive VP200 anomalies between 90-120E). Real-time multivariate MJO (RMM) phase-space diagrams show that we are currently approximately in RMM Phases 8-to-1 (U200, U850, and VP200 ; VP850 and VP200)

RMM phase 3 is the most favorable phase for genesis, therefore suggesting the Atlantic will remain in active state through mid August. Atlantic hurricanes are most frequent during RMM phases 1-3. Therefore, there is increased potential for any storms to develop to intensify into hurricanes during this time.

August 24-September 15: Low Activity; Confidence 25%. The convectively suppressed phase of the MJO is projected to suppressed TC activity over the Atlantic Basin during this time. Uncertainties in this forecast exist with respect to the amplitude of the MJO.