

Tropical Storm Melissa

INFORMATION NOTE No. 2

AS AT 8:00 PM (AST) ON 23rd October 2025

Regional Preparedness For Tropical Storm Melissa

**HURRICANE WATCH IN EFFECT
FOR: JAMAICA AND SOUTHERN
PENINSULA OF HAITI**

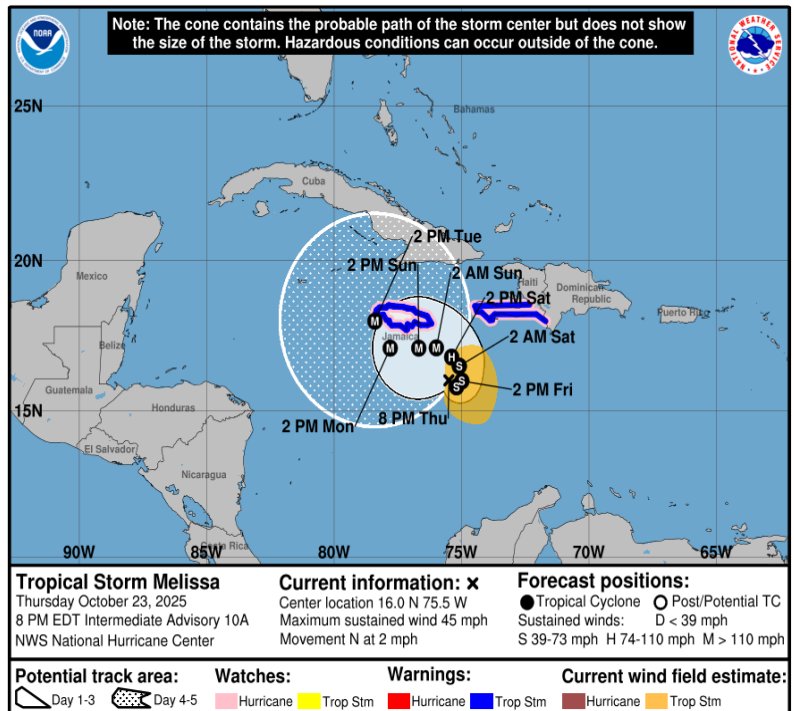
**TROPICAL STORM WARNING IN
EFFECT FOR: JAMAICA AND
SOUTHERN PENINSULA OF HAITI**

**LOCATION: 16.0N 75.5W ABOUT 165 MI
(260 KM) SSE OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA**

**MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 45 MPH
(75 KM/H)**

**MIN CENTRAL PRESSURE: 1000 MB
(25.56 IN)**

**PRESENT MOVEMENT: NNW at 2 MPH (4
KM/H)**



Source: <https://www.noaa.gov/at 8:00 PM 20251023>

National Hurricane Centre Update (NHC)

The center of Tropical Storm (TS) Melissa was located near latitude 16.0 North, longitude 75.5 West at 8:00 p.m. AST. Maximum sustained winds are near 45 mph (75 km/h) with higher wind gusts, and gradual strengthening is expected over the next 24 hours. TS Melissa is a slow-moving storm, tracking north-northwest near 2 mph (4 km/h). The storm is likely to become a hurricane by Saturday 25 October and a major hurricane during Sunday 26 October.

Hurricane conditions are forecast for Jamaica and the southern peninsula of Haiti by late Friday 24 October or Saturday 25 October, with tropical storm conditions beginning earlier on Friday. TS Melissa is expected to deliver heavy rainfall to eastern Jamaica and southern Haiti (8-14 inches) into the weekend. Western Jamaica and northern Haiti may receive 2-4 inches of rain. There is a significant threat of severe flash-flooding, landslides and urban flooding. However, it must be emphasized that there remains a **high degree of uncertainty** in track and intensity models, thus all interests in the North-Western Sub-Region of CDEMA should monitor this system closely.

Caribbean Institute For Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) Analysis.

Disclaimer: *The CIMH provides special weather interpretation of the current and forecasted tropical weather affecting the Caribbean region. CIMH is not an official forecasting agency.*

- While the structure of TS Melissa continues to show signs of change, the surface circulation remains rather broad and tilted to the northeast. Melissa is likely to continue moving very slowly, drifting northward towards a weakness in the mid-level ridging produced by an upper-level trough over the Bahamas. This trough is expected to lift out over the next 24-48 hours. In response, the track guidance shows TS Melissa turning westward between the next 48 hours to 96 hours. How sharply and how far northward TS Melissa will turn still remains uncertain. A variety of model solutions show Melissa south of Jamaica (ECMWF), over Jamaica (GDMI), or north of Jamaica (HMON).

Rainfall Impact Forecast

- Rainfall projections over the next 24 to 48 hours, suggest heavy rainfall and the potential for flooding in Haiti, Jamaica, as well as Cayman Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands. There is the possibility for catastrophic flooding and landslide impacts particularly in Haiti and Jamaica as TS Melissa is expected to bring 6 to 12 inches of rain to southern Haiti and eastern Jamaica through Sunday, with locally higher amounts possible. Additional heavy rainfall is likely beyond Sunday. However, uncertainty in Melissa's track and forward speed reduces confidence in the exact totals. Regardless, significant, life-threatening flash flooding and numerous landslides are expected. Across northern Haiti, and western Jamaica, two to four inches of rain are expected through Sunday which may produce flash and urban flooding. In the case of Jamaica, flooding impacts may increase across western areas into next week.

Wind Impact Forecast

- Hurricane force conditions are possible within the watch area in Haiti and Jamaica beginning on late Friday or Saturday. Tropical storm conditions are expected to begin in Jamaica earlier on Friday.

Marine Impact Forecast

- Swells generated by TS Melissa are expected to affect portions of Jamaica. Additional CIMH data further suggests that rough marine conditions are expected along the eastern parishes of (Jamaica) and the southern peninsula of (Haiti) with the potential for storm surge related impacts on the southern peninsula of Haiti later this week.

Caribbean Institute For Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) Analysis.

POTENTIAL SECTOR IMPACTS FOR JAMAICA

TRANSPORTATION IMPACT:

- Be prepared for delays in public transportation due to swollen rivers. Dangerous driving conditions due to flying debris. Landslides, fallen trees and power lines will result in damage to infrastructure and road closures.

AGRICULTURE IMPACT:

- Damage to fishing vessels expected if not secured in harbour or onshore. Landslides can be expected leading to severe soil and crop loss.

HEALTH IMPACT:

- Disruption to first responder operations due to road closures. Moderate damage to health care facilities can be expected. Delays with emergency response. Possible increase in blunt trauma cases and lacerations due to flying debris.

TOURISM IMPACT:

- Flooding of hotel/restaurant properties in flood prone and coastal areas is likely. Disruption to tourist activities expected. Major impact on airport/seaport operations . Flights and port operations delayed.

ENERGY IMPACT

- Widespread and prolonged power outages are expected. Severe damage to electricity grid infrastructure can be expected. Reduction or complete stoppage of renewable energy production. Delays with emergency response.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Widespread and prolonged telecommunication outages and severe damage to infrastructure are possible. Delays with emergency response.

WATER RESOURCES IMPACT

- Flooding in low-lying areas, along riverbanks and coastal areas inundated. Disruption to water supply due to power outages. Debris flows from landslide activity expected to exacerbate flooding.

MARINE IMPACT

- High risk of boats capsizing in open waters. Damage to watercraft expected if not secured in harbour or onshore. Disruption to port operations expected. Major impacts to coastal areas due to beach erosion and damage to infrastructure.

Caribbean Institute For Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) Analysis.

POTENTIAL SECTOR IMPACTS FOR HAITI

TRANSPORTATION IMPACT:

- Be prepared for delays in public transportation due to swollen rivers and flooding. Dangerous driving conditions due to flying debris. Landslides, fallen trees and power lines will result in damage to infrastructure and road closures.

AGRICULTURE IMPACT:

- Damage to fishing vessels expected if not secured in harbour or onshore. Mudslides can be expected leading to severe soil and crop loss.

HEALTH IMPACT:

- Disruption to first responder operations due to road closures. Moderate damage to health care facilities can be expected. Delays with emergency response. Possible increase in blunt trauma cases and lacerations due to flying debris.

TOURISM IMPACT:

- Flooding of hotel/restaurant properties in flood prone and coastal areas is likely. Disruption to tourist activities expected. Major impact on airport/seaport operations . Flights and port operations delayed.

ENERGY IMPACT:

- Widespread and prolonged power outages are expected. Severe damage to electricity grid infrastructure can be expected. Reduction or complete stoppage of renewable energy production. Delays with emergency response.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

- Widespread and prolonged telecommunication outages and damage to infrastructure are possible. Delays with emergency response.

WATER RESOURCES IMPACT:

- Flooding in low-lying areas and coastal areas inundated. Disruption to water supply due to power outages. Debris flows from landslide activity expected to exacerbate flooding.

MARINE IMPACT:

- High risk of boats capsizing in open waters. Damage to watercraft expected if not secured in harbour or onshore. Disruption to port operations expected. Major impacts to coastal areas due to beach erosion and damage to infrastructure, especially on the Southern Peninsula.

Updates from the Threatened Participating States



HAITI

Report from the Director - General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC) in Haiti

- The Haiti Hydrometeorological Unit has raised the alert level from Yellow to Orange for the Southern and Western regions today, October 23, 2025.
- Flooding and landslides have been reported in several regions including Nord-Ouest and Artibonite resulting in reports of five (5) persons injured.
- One fatality has been recorded in Marigot, Sud-Est due to a fallen tree.
- The National Disaster Management System remains fully mobilised, focusing on public awareness campaigns and coordination with national authorities.
- Local disaster management teams in the Southern and South-West regions are continuing assessments to determine needs for possible support.
- The situation is being closely monitored, and further updates will be provided as the situation evolves.



JAMAICA

Report from the Deputy Director - Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) in Jamaica

- A second Press Briefing attended by the Ministry of Health and other relevant ministries was held this morning, 23 October 2025.
- ODPEM and partners continue to evaluate actions and prepare to conduct pre-impact evacuation of vulnerable communities that may become marooned during impact.
- A total of 881 emergency shelters across the island have been placed on stand-by, along with shelter managers, to support evacuation, and emergency housing needs.
- ODPEM continues to monitor the progress of Tropical Storm Melissa and is finalising activation plans for emergency telecommunications.
- ODPEM will meet with the Executive Director and CDEMA Team today, 23 October 2025, to discuss operational scenarios and planning for TS Melissa.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Coordination Thematic Working Group

- OCHA remains in contact with the Regional Coordination Officer (RCO) and is prepared to provide support as needed to Jamaica and Haiti.
- CDEMA has scheduled an operational planning meeting with the Jamaica NDO later today, October 23, 2025, to assess scenarios and anticipate possible needs.
- The Caribbean Development Partners Group (CDPG) convened its second meeting for TS Melissa at 1:00 PM AST, Thursday, October 23, 2025, to coordinate preparedness actions and exchange information.
- All other updates remain the same.
- The CDEMA Information Note #2 was published.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Civil-Military Coordination Thematic Working Group

- The Pacific Disaster Centre (PDC) continues to provide estimated impacts and situational awareness products to CDEMA, RSS and the MNCCC.
- Estimated impacts and situational awareness products are also being provided to ODPEM in direct relation to their preparation, planning and any additional requests.
- PDC is also in constant coordination with the USSOUTHCOM Meteorological Officer (METOC) and their Joint Operations Center (JOC), with updates on PDC Estimated Impact products for TS Melissa.
- Members continue to monitor the progress of the storm and stand ready to assist as the need arises.

Early Recovery Thematic Working Group

- UNICEF is in contact with the Ministry of Education in Jamaica and is prepared to assist with mental health and psychosocial support; keeping updated with the schools to be used as shelters.

Emergency Shelter Thematic Working Group

- TWG is in contact with the shelter cluster team in Haiti.
- TWG stands ready to support Jamaica under local coordination and leadership.
- The IFRC has approved an Imminent DREF to support the Jamaica Red Cross in preparedness efforts.
- Through the IFRC, Non-Food Items (NFIs) including cleaning kits, hygiene kits, tarpaulins, blankets, and shelter tool kits being pre-positioned in branches across the potentially most affected parishes for onward community distribution in Jamaica. Additional distributions will be made to shelterees as needs arise.
- Special Shelter Technical Working Group Meeting scheduled for tomorrow, Friday, October 24, 2025, at 9.00 - 10.00 AST.

Emergency Telecoms Working Group

- TWG is ready to provide support to Jamaica and Haiti as needed.

Health Thematic Working Group

- UNICEF has activated the Emergency Preparedness Plan which prioritises children, pregnant/lactating women, and adolescent girls and boys.
- UNICEF is coordinating with government and partners in country on emergency nutrition to support early health and nutrition assessments and provide essential supplies when needed.
- Training and capacity building for frontline workers will be facilitated by UNICEF.
- PAHO offices in Jamaica and Haiti remain in a state of readiness with regional response teams on standby in the event of deployment.
- CARPHA is prepared to assist with shelter surveillance, shelter assessments, and provide mobile laboratory services as needed.
- CARPHA is also prepared to provide support for WASH and to the Rapid Needs Assessment Team.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Private Sector Thematic Working Group

- CBI and CARICHAM are in contact with the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce to coordinate readiness support in case national authorities require private sector engagement to respond.
- CBI is also in contact with OCHA's national office in Haiti to provide any support for private sector engagement.
- CPSO stands ready to provide private sector support in Jamaica and Haiti as needed.
- CARICHAM is expanding outreach to chambers in Jamaica, Haiti, The Dominican Republic, Cuba and The Bahamas.

Protection Thematic Working Group

- TWG partners remain on standby to provide support and technical assistance as required.
- UNHCR is ready to provide protection mainstreaming expertise and information management capacity for needs assessment as required.
- UNHCR also has core relief items prepositioned in the Dominican Republic and Panama if needed.

Relief and Logistics Thematic Working Group

- Coordination meeting held this morning, October 23, 2025, to provide updates on consolidated actions and operational capacities of all stakeholders, with a follow-up meeting scheduled for tomorrow, October 24, 2025.
- Over 500 pallets of partner relief supplies and logistics assets stored at the Caribbean Regional Logistics Hub for rapid dispatch upon request.
- WFP is in daily contact with ODPEM and MLSS in Jamaica regarding surge deployment.
- WFP is deploying needs assessment, food and cash officers and coordination support as well as finalising contracts to deliver food kits and cash if requested.
- WFP is also deploying two (2) logistics officers to Jamaica and has recalled Jamaica's Sub-Regional Logistics Associate from Belize with expected arrival in Jamaica tomorrow to support the government in preparedness actions as needed.
- WFP has identified a roll-on/roll-off barge vessel currently positioned in Martinique for sea bridge and inter-island support if needed.
- All relief and logistics updates will be shared via the Relief and Logistics TWG WhatsApp Group, Website and Email List.
- TWG requests partners and government agencies to provide updates on accessibility of infrastructure for sharing via mediums previously indicated.
- TWG also requests partners to update the CDEMA Logistics System (CLS) with new prepositioned items available.
- RLTWG website: <https://logcluster.org/en/relief-and-logistics-thematic-working-group-rltwg>
- Sunrise Airways B737 cargo plane is on standby for use with 24-hour notice.
- Global Support and Development is positioning the MV Dawn Vessel in Puerto Rico to support response if needed.

Water Sanitation & Hygiene Thematic Working Group

- TWG is in contact with WASH Coordination Platforms in Jamaica and Haiti with support from UNICEF.
- Preparedness actions are underway including preventative distribution of WASH hygiene kits in identified shelters.
- Additional hygiene kits are needed in Haiti which can be mobilised from the prepositioned supplies in Panama.
- In Haiti, the anticipatory action cell has been activated by OCHA with a pre-approved CERF anticipatory action allocation of \$4 million.
- Contingency stocks are continuously being updated.

Summary

- Thanks are extended to all RRM partners for their continued support to regional preparedness, response and recovery.
- CDEMA, in collaboration with CIMH and the RRM partners, will continue to monitor the progress of Tropical Storm Melissa, maintain communication with threatened Participating States, and issue updates to all partners as needed.