

Tropical Storm Melissa

INFORMATION NOTE No. 1

AS AT 5:00 PM (AST) ON 22nd October 2025

Regional Preparedness For Tropical Storm Melissa

**HURRICANE WATCH IN EFFECT
FOR: HAITI**

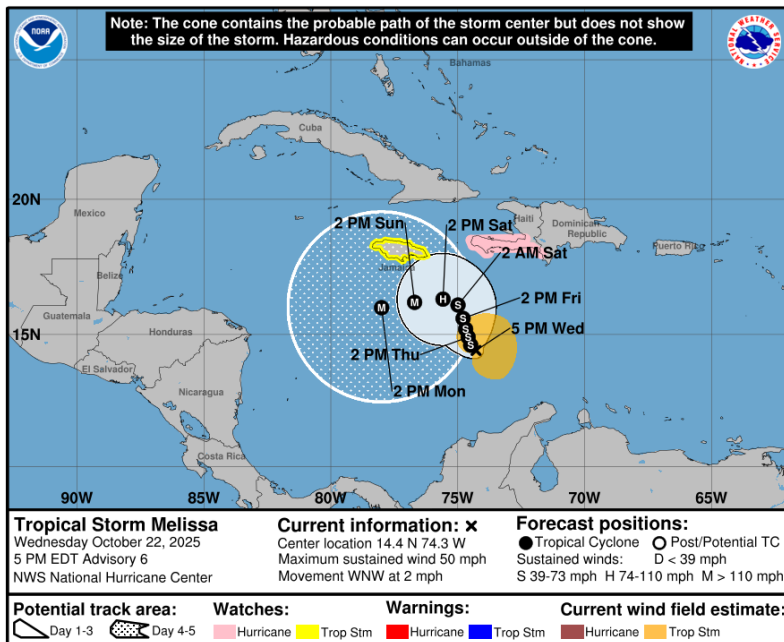
**TROPICAL STORM WATCH IN EFFECT
FOR: JAMAICA**

**LOCATION: 14.4N 74.3W ABOUT 300 MI
(480 KM) SE OF KINGSTON JAMAICA**

**MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 50 MPH
(85 KM/H)**

MIN CENTRAL PRESSURE: 1000MB

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



Source: <https://www.noaa.gov/at 5:00 PM 20251022>

National Hurricane Centre Update (NHC)

The center of Tropical Storm (TS) Melissa was located near latitude 14.4 North, longitude 74.3 West at 5:00 p.m. AST (2100 UTC). Strong west-northwesterly shear is displacing the low-level center to the west of the main convection, limiting short-term development. Maximum sustained winds are near 50 mph (85 km/h) with higher wind gusts, and only minimal strengthening is expected over the next 24–36 hours. TS Melissa is a slow-moving storm, tracking west-northwest near 2 mph (4 km/h). This slow forward speed is expected to continue, although confidence in the exact track remains low. Recent trends favor a slower, slightly more westward trajectory, while other models keep Melissa weaker and tracking closer to Jamaica and Haiti.

The system is forecasted to strengthen slowly over the next few days, possibly becoming hurricane by Friday, 24th October. Substantial intensification is possible by this weekend with Hurricane conditions forecasted for Haiti by Friday 23 October, and tropical storm conditions may begin to affect Jamaica by late Thursday 23 October/ early Friday 24 October. TS Melissa is expected to deliver heavy rainfall to threatened States (5-10 inches) into the weekend, with a significant threat of flash-flooding and landslides. However, it must be emphasized that there is 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.*

Tropical Storm Melissa continues to show intermittent “bursting” convection on satellite, with cloud-top temperatures as low as -95°C ; however, there is little evidence that these bursts are organizing into bands wrapping the center. Persistent west-northwesterly shear of 20–25 kt (approximately 23–29 mph) is keeping the low and mid-level circulations misaligned. The wind field remains notably asymmetric, indicating that most tropical storm-force winds are concentrated east of the center.

Rainfall Impact Forecast

- TS Melissa is expected to bring between five (5) and ten (10) inches of rain to southern Haiti and eastern Jamaica through Saturday. Additional heavy rainfall is possible beyond the weekend, however, uncertainty in TS Melissa's track and forward speed reduces confidence in exact totals. Significant flash flooding and landslides are possible. Across northern Haiti and western Jamaica, two (2) to four (4) inches of rain is expected through Saturday. Flash and urban flooding will also be possible through the weekend.

Wind Impact Forecast

- Hurricane conditions are possible within the Watch area in Haiti beginning late on Thursday, 23rd, October. Tropical storm conditions could begin in Jamaica late on Thursday, 23rd October or Friday, 24th, October.

Marine Impact Forecast

- Swells generated by TS Melissa are expected to spread to Jamaica during the next couple of days.

While uncertainty remains high, the Cayman Islands, The Bahamas, and the Turks and Caicos Islands should closely monitor updates given the potential for track shifts and extended regional impacts early next week.

Updates from the Threatened Participating States



HAITI

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

- The Prime Minister and the Minister of the Interior have been briefed on the evolving hazard situation.
- The Haiti Meteorological Office, in coordination with the DGPC, will discuss raising the national alert level from Yellow to Orange this evening, October 22, 2025.
- Engaged the Minister of Finance to mobilise emergency funds to support first-response activities.
- Met with the UN Resident Coordinator and key UN agency representatives to coordinate preparedness and potential response actions today October 22, 2025.
- National monitoring of Tropical Storm Melissa is ongoing across all relevant agencies.
- Mobilised local disaster management teams in the Southern and South-West regions to review readiness measures and advance mitigation actions.

Updates from the Threatened Participating States



JAMAICA

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

- ODPEM is monitoring the progress of the storm and has mobilised the national emergency management system since the first indications of a potential threat.
- ODPEM has received briefings from the Jamaica Meteorological Office. Briefings have also been done for the Prime Minister and Minister of Local Government, ODPEM staff and the media. A press briefing was held on 22 October 2025.
- The National Response Coordination Plan and the National Emergency Operations Centre Standard Operating Procedures have been activated. Shelters have been inspected and stocked. Assessment teams have been trained and are on standby. Shelter managers are also on standby and the ODPEM duty team has been activated.
- Provided Parish Disaster Emergency Management Systems with information on the storm's progress and key preparedness actions they should take.
- Met with response teams and agencies (local, national and international) on 21 October 2025 to discuss the status of preparations and critical actions to address key vulnerable areas.
- Contact with the CDEMA Participating States in the North-Western Sub-Region.
- Public information updates and guidance on preparedness actions have been issued via traditional media and social media channels.
- Continue to coordinate with the Jamaica Meteorological Office to inform next-day priorities for 23 October 2025.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Coordination Thematic Working Group

- The CDEMA Executive Director activated the Regional Coordination Plan at 11:00 AM AST, Tuesday, October 21, 2025.
- The CARICOM Secretary General and the CDEMA Chairman have been briefed by the CDEMA Executive Director on Tropical Storm Melissa's evolving threat profile and will be updated on RRM preparedness operations.
- RRM teams are on ALERT and standing by to support Participating States.
- Communication was established and being maintained with all threatened Participating States and the Sub-Regional Focal Point. Operational Scenario planning discussions have commenced with both countries.
- The Caribbean Development Partners Group (CDPG) convened its first meeting for TS Melissa at 1:00 PM AST, Wednesday, October 22, 2025, to coordinate preparedness actions and exchange information.
- The UN Resident Coordinator (RC) for the Eastern Caribbean facilitated coordination with the RC in Jamaica and the Head of the Regional Coordination Office (RCO) in Haiti to ensure alignment of response planning and communication channels.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Coordination Thematic Working Group cont'd

- The OCHA Regional Office and the CDEMA Coordinating Unit (CU) remain in regular contact, jointly monitoring developments and supporting preparedness and coordination at both national and regional levels.
- OCHA's Regional Office is maintaining contact with the OCHA Country Office and the UN Country Team (UNCT) in **Haiti**. The UNCT is liaising directly with the General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC). The Anticipatory Action Framework for Haiti has been activated in readiness mode, enabling early coordination and pre-positioning actions.
- OCHA is coordinating with the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) in **Jamaica** to support national monitoring and preparedness. The RCO and UN Emergency Technical Team (UNETT) participated in an initial ODPEM preparatory meeting with key national stakeholders, to review the storm's progress, forecast updates, parish-level readiness, and available response capacities.
- The CDEMA Information Note #1 was published.

Civil-Military Coordination Thematic Working Group

- The Multi-National Caribbean Coordination Cell met on October 22, to assess preparations.
- Members are monitoring the progress of the storm and stand ready to assist if the need arises.

Early Recovery Thematic Working Group

- The partners are monitoring the progress of the storm and stand ready to support early recovery where needed.

Emergency Shelter Thematic Working Group

- Coordination meetings with key partners are ongoing and includes partners from the PSs under threat.
- Pre-positioned stocks (in Barbados and Panama) are available to support impacted States.
- Partners remain on standby for deployment, as required.
- The Shelter coordination group has been integrated into the Humanitarian Assistance Committee of the Jamaica government.

Emergency Telecoms Working Group

- The group met on October 22, 2025 to discuss preparations.
- Telecoms equipment is pre-positioned for deployment, including Starlink devices.
- The CARICOM Emergency Telecommunications Team (CETT) and other personnel have been briefed and are on ALERT for potential deployment.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Health Thematic Working Group

- TWG members are monitoring the progress of the storm and stand ready to assist as requested.
- PAHO has engaged with its national level teams in Jamaica and Haiti.
- Jamaica national level teams have issued public messages, stockpiled supplies and are prepared to activate the Health EOC as needed.
- PAHO team in Haiti are coordinating with the local ministry regarding the functioning of health facilities. Some personnel were placed on standby to assist.

Private Sector Thematic Working Group

- TWG members are actively monitoring the storm's progress.
- The private sector partners are engaged and remain on ALERT to support, if required.

Protection Thematic Working Group

- TWG members stand ready to provide support in child protection and gender-based violence.
- UNICEF is providing Prevention of sexual exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) training to the Jamaica country team.
- UN Women can support the Bureaus of Gender Affairs with gender analysis and provision of emergency management experts.
- CARE International has been in contact with its Jamaica focal points.

Relief and Logistics Thematic Working Group

- The Relief and Logistics TWG continues to monitor the progress of the storm.
- WFP remains on standby to support warehouse and transportation management, including personnel, equipment (e.g. Mobile Storage Units (MSUs), forklifts), overseas relief tracking and "last mile" delivery.
- MSUs are pre-positioned in Jamaica.
- WFP is also on standby to activate Cash-Based Transfers (CBT) agreements with Jamaica. Under these agreements, 4,900 debit cards are ready to be shipped to Jamaica.
- RLWTW website: <https://logcluster.org/en/relief-and-logistics-thematic-working-group-rltwg>

Water Sanitation & Hygiene Thematic Working Group

- Partners on the TWG are monitoring the system and there are at least 17 WASH experts on standby for deployment.
- UNICEF - emergency supplies including mass water storage units and mobile water treatment plants have been prepositioned for distribution and family and female hygiene kits.
- UNICEF has established 4 local partnerships with Haitian NGOs who have the capacity to support on the ground.
- Pre-positioned supplies in Haiti include 3,900 hygiene kits and 9,000 jerry cans. The 3,900 hygiene kits have been pre-positioned as a joint initiative between the Haiti Red Cross and UNICEF.
- Funds available for immediate response in Haiti.

Water Sanitation & Hygiene Thematic Working Group cont'd

- In Jamaica, the WASH Coordination Platform will convene by Friday October 24, 2025. There are contingency agreements in place with NGOs that can support up to 100,000 persons with hygiene kits, and communal water points.
- There are also 4,000 wash shelter kits and approximately 4,000 water storage units, which have been delivered to the Jamaica government or are in the process of being delivered to the Jamaica government.
- Agreements are in place to provide psychosocial support and Cash-Based Transfers.
- The Caribbean Water Utility Insurance Collective will meet with the Jamaica Water Commission on October 22, 2025 to outline the support available, and they stand ready to provide support as needed.

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.