

Tropical Storm Melissa

INFORMATION NOTE No. 3

AS AT 8:00 PM (AST) ON 24th October 2025

Regional Preparedness For Tropical Storm Melissa

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

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

**LOCATION: 16.2N 74.6W ABOUT 190 MI
(310 KM) SE OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA**

**MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 65 MPH
(100 KM/H)**

**MIN CENTRAL PRESSURE: 993 MB
(29.33 IN)**

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



Source: <https://www.noaa.gov/at> 8:00 PM 20251024

National Hurricane Centre Update (NHC)

The center of Tropical Storm (TS) Melissa was located near latitude 16.2 North, longitude 74.6 West at 8:00 p.m. AST. Maximum sustained winds are near 65 mph (100 km/h) with higher wind gusts. TS Melissa is a slow-moving storm, tracking north at near 2 mph (4 km/h). Forecasts indicate that a general westward movement is expected on Saturday, October 25, and will continue through Monday, October 27, followed by a turn to the north and northeast on Tuesday, October 28 and Wednesday, October 29. On its projected path, the system's center is expected to pass near or over Jamaica early next week.

Hurricane conditions are forecasted for Jamaica and the southern peninsula of Haiti later this weekend. Parts of Haiti will begin to experience tropical storm conditions tonight (Friday, October 24). Jamaica will begin to experience tropical storm conditions late Saturday into Sunday. There are early reports from Haiti of rainfall impacts including landslides, injuries and deaths. TS Melissa is expected to deliver heavy rainfall to Jamaica and southern Haiti (15-25 inches) through the weekend into early next week. Tiburon Peninsula, Haiti may receive up to 35 inches of rain. Heavy rainfall is possible beyond Tuesday. The risk of catastrophic flash-flooding, landslides and urban flooding remains high. Significant storm surge (5-10 feet) may affect Jamaica's south coast early next week. There is still some 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 (TS) Melissa may have reformed recently. Air Force Reserve reconnaissance aircraft located the centre near latitude 15.7 North, longitude 74.6 West- significantly further to the east-southeast than was observed last night. The aircraft also observed indications that the storm is strengthening. The storm remains about the same on satellite imagery with a large burst of deep convection, primarily along its southeastern flank, with evidence of northwesterly shear still undercutting the outflow. There hasn't been a significant change to TS Melissa's intensity. Gradual strengthening is forecast for today, followed by rapid intensification this weekend. TS Melissa is likely to become a hurricane by Saturday and a major hurricane by Sunday. Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 140 miles (220 km) from the center.
- The lack of persistent steering currents, due to competing mid-level ridges to the southeast and northwest of Melissa, is responsible for the storm's very slow motion. This is likely to continue for the next day or so. After 24 hours, the mid-level ridge located to the northwest is expected to strengthen, and the models are coming into better agreement on a very slow westward motion through 72 hours. The current estimated motion is east-southeast near 2 mph (4 km/h). A slow motion turning to the northeast and then north is expected to begin later Friday, with a westward motion forecasted to begin on Saturday and continue through Monday. On the forecast track, the center of TS Melissa is expected to move near or just south of Jamaica early next week..

Rainfall Impact Forecast

- TS Melissa is expected to bring heavy rainfall to portions of southwestern Haiti and eastern Jamaica through Monday, with locally higher amounts possible. However, uncertainty in TS Melissa's track and forward speed reduces confidence in exact totals. Significant, life-threatening flash flooding and numerous landslides are expected in eastern Jamaica, with catastrophic flash flooding and landslides anticipated in southern Haiti. Across portions of northern Haiti, and western Jamaica, 3 to 5 inches of rain is expected through Monday. Flash and urban flooding will be possible. Flooding impacts will likely increase across western Jamaica next week.

Wind Impact Forecast

- Hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area in Haiti later this weekend and Jamaica beginning late this weekend or early next week. Tropical storm conditions are expected to begin in Haiti tonight or Saturday and in Jamaica later this weekend.

Marine Impact Forecast

- Minor coastal flooding is expected along sections of Jamaica's coastline by Saturday, particularly in areas affected by onshore winds, as tropical storm conditions begin to influence the island. However, there is a potential risk of a more significant storm surge, especially along the south coast of Jamaica, early next week. Swells generated by TS Melissa are expected to affect portions of Hispaniola and Jamaica during the next several days.

Updates from the Threatened Participating States



HAITI

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

- Heavy rainfall is expected from Friday across the southern half of the country (6–8 inches), likely causing flash floods and landslides, especially in the Grand Sud and West departments.
- The Haiti Hydrometeorological Unit (UHM) has maintained Orange Alert status for the departments of South-East, South, Nippes, Grand'Anse, and West.
- Mobilisation efforts continue to intensify in the Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) across the threatened territories.
- Activation of the National EOCs has been extended to include activation of shelters. Shelter teams are being pre-deployed, and equipment and supplies are being verified in preparation for further impact.
- The Minister of the Interior and Local Authorities and the DGPC met with the Presidents of the mayoral federations from the ten departments of the country to enhance preparedness and support actions for those affected by TS Melissa.
- Two (2) people have died in Fontamara, Port-au-Prince (West Department), and one (1) in Marigot due to landslide, bringing the total number of casualties in the past 48 hours to three (3).
- Five (5) injuries recorded (including a 14-year-old girl seriously hurt) in Gonaïves due to a collapsed wall.
- There have been reports of rising river levels and flooding in the Arbonite, Lociane and Saint-Martin Rivers.
- Eight (8) communities have flooded. Four (4) in Arbonite namely Gonaïves, Terre Neuve, Grande Saline, Desdunes and four (4) in the North-West namely Port-de-Paix, Saint Louis du Nord, Anse-à-Rouge, Anse-à-Fleur.
- One (1) bridge has been destroyed in Sainte-Suzanne (North-East) due to breached river-banks.
- Several landslides have been reported in multiple departments resulting in damage to infrastructure and road blockages in Arbonite.
- The Civil Protection Directorate continues planning and public awareness activities and media campaigns have intensified in the South-East, South, and Grand'Anse.
- WFP supported message dissemination, 3.5 million SMS alerts sent to at-risk population.
- Departmental teams continue to monitor the situation to produce detailed reports, and contingency plans are activated across departments.
- Preventive school closures were initiated in the South-East, South, and Grand'Anse, and hundreds of shelters opened in southern departments.
- Challenges indicated include poor road infrastructure and security issues, which hinder access to vulnerable areas and limit preparation capabilities; limited logistics and financial resources; and insufficient technical capacity for complete territory monitoring.
- Further updates will be provided as the situation evolves.

Updates from the Threatened Participating States



JAMAICA

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

- A Government Press Conference was held on Friday, October 24, 2025, chaired by the Honourable Andrew Holness, Prime Minister of Jamaica.
- The national disaster coordination mechanism is fully activated under the National Disaster Management Act.
- Rainfall projections, combined with existing saturated ground conditions, indicate a high risk of flooding in low-lying areas and landslides in elevated terrain, with significant potential impacts to homes, roadways, and other critical infrastructure. Some minor impacts have already been reported in Kingston and St. Andrew (KSA), St. Catherine, St. Elizabeth, Manchester, Trelawny, and Clarendon
- Parishes on high alert beginning Friday/Saturday include St. Mary, Portland, St. Thomas, KSA, St. Catherine, Clarendon, Manchester, St. Elizabeth, and Westmoreland. These Parishes will remain on high alert on Sunday/Monday, with the exception of St. Mary and Portland.
- The total exposed population in the parishes on high alert is 2,119,852.
- Households at risk of severe flooding and landslides are likely to be evacuated over the weekend to avert possible loss of life, and severe injuries.
- A total of 659 emergency shelters along with shelter managers within the Southern and Northeastern parishes have been placed on standby for activation to support evacuation, and emergency housing needs.
- Shelter managers have been briefed, and emergency shelter supplies pre-positioned through the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, and humanitarian partners.
- Public transportation and toll corridors have been placed on standby to support evacuation if necessary.
- Security forces have activated response plans to support evacuation, maintain order, and protect critical infrastructure.
- The Government of Jamaica has indicated that it will issue price control orders under the Trade Act to protect against price gouging during the event.
- ODPEM will engage public media for the dissemination of severe weather advisories and news releases, highlighting vulnerable communities and provide precautionary measures to be taken by motorists and residents. There will be an increased social media presence with a focus on disaster risk and public safety measures.
- ODPEM continues coordination with CDEMA to assess preliminary needs and has received pre-deployment teams from the Regional Response Mechanism to support coordination and emergency telecommunications.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Coordination Thematic Working Group

- The TWG continues to monitor, and plan based on evolving scenarios.
- OCHA and CDEMA have been in contact with NDOs in Haiti and Jamaica.
- OCHA is in contact with the operational planning team in Jamaica and has been working with CDEMA to provide technical assistance in the event of full RCC activation.
- CDEMA continues to update the CARICOM Secretary General and CDEMA Council Chair on the evolving situation.
- Mr. Mandela Christian, CDEMA's Programme Manager, Preparedness and Response Department representing the CARICOM Operational Support Team (COST) and Mr. Courtney King, CDEMA's Senior Programme Officer, Telecommunications and representing the CARICOM Emergency Telecommunications Team (CETT) were deployed today, October 24, 2025, to ODPEM, Jamaica, to support operations and coordination, and emergency telecommunications.
- CDEMA has scheduled a second operational planning meeting with the Jamaica NDO later today, October 24, 2025, to further assess scenarios and anticipate possible needs.
- Convened the Caribbean Development Partners Group (CDPG) Meeting #3 for TS Melissa at 1:00 PM AST, Friday, October 24, 2025, to coordinate preparedness actions and exchange information.
- All other updates remain the same.
- The CDEMA Information Note #3 published.

Civil-Military Coordination Thematic Working Group

- All updates remain the same.

Early Recovery Thematic Working Group

- The Agricultural Disaster Risk Management Committee co-chaired by the Food and Agriculture Organisation and CDEMA convened today, October 24, to strengthen coordination between agricultural stakeholders and CDEMA's RRM. During the meeting:
 - The Ministry of Agriculture, Jamaica, reported that steps are being taken to prepare farmers, fisherfolk and stakeholders across the sector in preparation for TS Melissa.
 - Discussions were held about the potential financial and technical resources needed for quick deployment of technical experts to conduct rapid assessments and post-disaster needs assessments.
- The Caribbean Resilient Recovery Facility (CRRF) recovery experts' roster is being expanded with additional technical personnel who can support the RNAT and other post-disaster recovery teams.
- The TWG continues to closely monitor the impacts of TS Melissa in Haiti and Jamaica with an aim to provide support as the need arises.
- Further updates will be shared subsequently.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Emergency Shelter Thematic Working Group

- Ad-hoc Special Shelter Technical Working Group Meeting took place this morning, October 24, 2025, at 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. AST with participation from Haiti and Jamaica.
- Emergency Shelter actions are moving ahead in Haiti due to the CERF Anticipatory Action funds.
- UNICEF, IOM and WFP are making plans to mobilise and deploy emergency shelter managers to the emergency shelters being opened in Haiti.
- Various international organisations such as the Global Empowerment Mission, UNICEF, IOM, IFRC etc. have indicated readiness to support.
- Efforts are being made to align assessment questionnaires, bills of quantities for response packages and training examples for Haiti and Jamaica.
- In addition to the Imminent DREF, the IFRC is preparing to deploy three (3) staff members to Jamaica tomorrow, Saturday, October 25, 2025.

Emergency Telecoms Working Group

- WFP Telecommunications Team is on standby to provide support to Jamaica and Haiti as the need arises.
- Solar panels, Starlink kits and generators are prepositioned in Jamaica and ready to be utilised as needed.

Health Thematic Working Group

- TWG met this morning, October 24, 2025, to discuss the unfolding situation, and capacity to support the Ministries of Health in Jamaica and Haiti.
- The Ministry of Health and PAHO team in Haiti indicated that the Immaculate Conception Hospital in the North-West department is experiencing water ingress and roof leakage due to ongoing rainfall and the pediatric and maternity units have been affected resulting in relocation of services.
- The Ministry of Health and Wellness in Jamaica continues its preparation with support from the PAHO team, UNICEF, UNFPA and other partner agencies.
- The Caribbean Psychosocial Support Interagency Consortium (CAPSIC) is on standby to support on potential mental health and psychosocial support efforts.
- UWI DRRC has indicated that the Mona Campus has activated its emergency plan, and some international students are being evacuated.
- Caribbean Alliance of National Psychological Associations (CANPA) is working with another partner agency on psychological education and communication including physical and mental preparedness.
- All other updates remain the same.

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Private Sector Thematic Working Group

- CBI, CARICHAM, and CPSO are actively discussing coordination, readiness and next steps.
- Additionally, CBI is in ongoing dialogue with OCHA Haiti and AGERCA, to explore support options.
- All other updates remain the same.

Protection Thematic Working Group

- UNFPA is prepared to support the Bureau of Gender and has offered to reallocate funds to assist with response efforts as required.
- UNFPA has a Gender-Based Violence expert on standby to be deployed for rapid assessments if needed.
- UNFPA is also ready to support dignity kit needs in collaboration with UNICEF and the emergency clusters.
- CARE is in contact with their Jamaican focal points and stands ready to assist as the need arises.
- All other updates remain the same.

Relief and Logistics Thematic Working Group

- Over 600 pallets of partner relief supplies and logistics assets are stored at the Caribbean Regional Logistics Hub for rapid dispatch upon request.
- WFP is in close contact with various air, sea and land transport providers to support rapid mobilisation across different transport modes in line with evolving needs.
- Two (2) deployed Logistics Officers have arrived in Jamaica today, October 24, 2025, with two (2) additional officers set to arrive next week.
- All other updates remain the same.
- RLTWG website: <https://logcluster.org/en/relief-and-logistics-thematic-working-group-rltwg>

Water Sanitation & Hygiene Thematic Working Group

- CAWASA and CWWA stand ready to assist in the immediate aftermath and for detailed impact assessments.
- Some officers are prepositioned in strategic locations like Puerto Rico to provide support if needed.
- Local NGOs in partnership with UNICEF are ready to assist.
- The IFRC has prepositioned items in Haiti and are working with the team on the ground to 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.