

# Tropical Storm Isaias

## INFORMATION NOTE No. 3

AS OF 5:00 PM (AST) ON JULY 30, 2020

### Isaias Bringing Heavy Rainfall and Tropical Storm-Force Winds

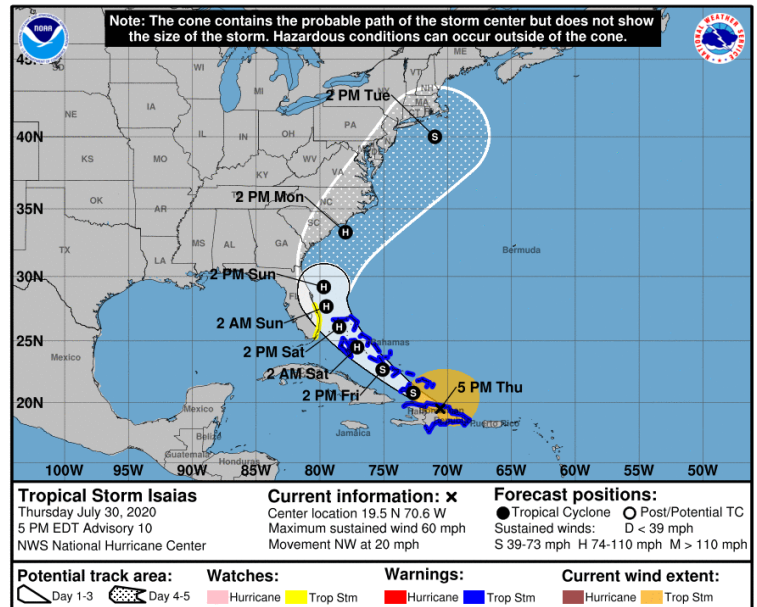
**LOCATION: 19.5N 70.6W**

**MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 60 MPH...95 KM/H**

**PRESENT MOVEMENT: NW OR 310 DEGREES AT 20 MPH**

**TROPICAL STORM WARNING IN EFFECT FOR CDEMA PSs:**

- **TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS**
- **NORTH COAST OF HAITI**
- **SOUTH EASTERN BAHAMAS**
- **CENTRAL BAHAMAS**
- **NORTHWESTERN BAHAMAS**



### National Hurricane Centre (NHC) Update

According to the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida, as of 5:00 PM (AST) on July 30, 2020, the center of Tropical Storm Isaias was located near latitude 19.5 North, longitude 70.6 West. Isaias is moving toward the northwest near 20 mph (31 km/h) and a northwestward motion with some decrease in forward speed is expected over the next couple of days.

On the forecast track, the center of Isaias will move near the Southeastern Bahamas by late tonight. Isaias is forecast to be near the Central Bahamas Friday night and move near or over the Northwest Bahamas and near South Florida on Saturday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 60 mph (95 km/h) with higher gusts. Strengthening is forecast during the next day or so, and Isaias is forecast to become a hurricane on Friday or Friday night.

Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 240 miles (390 km) from the center.

The estimated minimum central pressure based on surface observations in the Dominican Republic is 999 mb (29.50 inches).

## **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 and is NOT an official forecasting agency.*

The Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) is closely monitoring this system as it continues on its trajectory towards the Lesser Antilles. CIMH has provided the below weather update as at Wednesday, July 30, 2020.

**Weather** - TS Isaias is producing heavy rainfall and gusty winds over Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic and environs. Showers and thundershowers are expected over the Turks and Caicos Islands and The Bahamas by Friday 31st July, 2020.

**Winds** - Strong winds will accompany heavy thundershowers. Environs will also experience strong winds. It is expected that there could be tumbling and rolling of unsecured objects, falling limbs and trees and possible damage to power lines.

**Rainfall/Flood** - Heavy rainfall > 8 inches (200 mm) is expected in the vicinity of TCI and Bahamas with the potential for 4 - 6 inches (100 - 150 mm) over portions of Haiti. Flash floods and mudslides are possible in northern and central regions of Haiti resulting in debris flows that can cause disruption to water supplies, electric utilities and road networks. Coastal inundation is likely in the Bahamas and TCI, which may be exacerbated by rough seas and prolonged rainfall.

**Seas** – Moderate to rough with wave heights in excess of 6 metres in open waters in the vicinity of TCI and extending through the Bahamas resulting in sea spray, choppy seas and large breaking waves. Beach operations should be halted and vessels secured.

## **Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Actions**

- The RRM and RCC remains activated to provide joint coordination of the regional preparedness and response planning operations.
- The RCC maintains communication with the Participating States under threat from Tropical Storm Isaias to gain a sense of their preparedness.
- The Regional Response Teams have been placed on ALERT! The RCC has commenced administrative and logistical arrangements for the possible deployment of teams should this become necessary.
- The 3rd meeting of the Caribbean Development Partners Group (CDPG) for Tropical Storm Isaias was convened on July 30, 2020 at 1:00 PM. The partners received a briefing from the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), CDEMA, CARICOM Institutions present, and the UN Regional Partners
- CDEMA has developed an Operational Planning Guide for planning purposes to guide potential responses to states.
- CDEMA continues to refine the regional deployment protocols for a multi-hazard scenario.
- CDEMA will continue to monitor the progress of the system and provide updates as information becomes available.

## Updates from the CDEMA Participating States



### THE BAHAMAS – National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

Updates/actions undertaken by NEMA, The Bahamas

- Preparations are ongoing at the national level
- Nassau is monitoring and will partially activate the NEOC at 1800 hrs on Wednesday 30th July 2020
- Cabinet briefing held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and Plan of Action outlined
- Press Conference held on Wednesday July 29<sup>th</sup> 2020 to raise awareness on the approaching system
- The EOCs in the respective islands are being activated
- Consultations are ongoing with Island Administrators with special focus on shelter management using the draft Shelter Guidelines developed by the CDEMA CU.



### TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS – Department of Disaster Management & Emergencies (DDME)

Updates/actions undertaken by DDME, TCI

- Premier and Governor Co-Chaired a State of Preparedness meeting
- National Shut down as at 12:00 noon today, Thursday 30th July
- Shut down of non essential services as at yesterday, Wednesday 29th July at 4:00pm
- Airport closed as at 10:00am today, Thursday 30th July
- NEOC activated and all EOCs across the islands are activated
- Shelters and shelter managers are activated; COVID 19 protocols are in place (social distancing, temperature checks, sanitizers, soap and water stations and use of masks) Shelter managers trained in COVID 19 protocols and procedures.
- Public information and awareness are ongoing, including social media updates and interviews in Creole and English and website updates and text messages