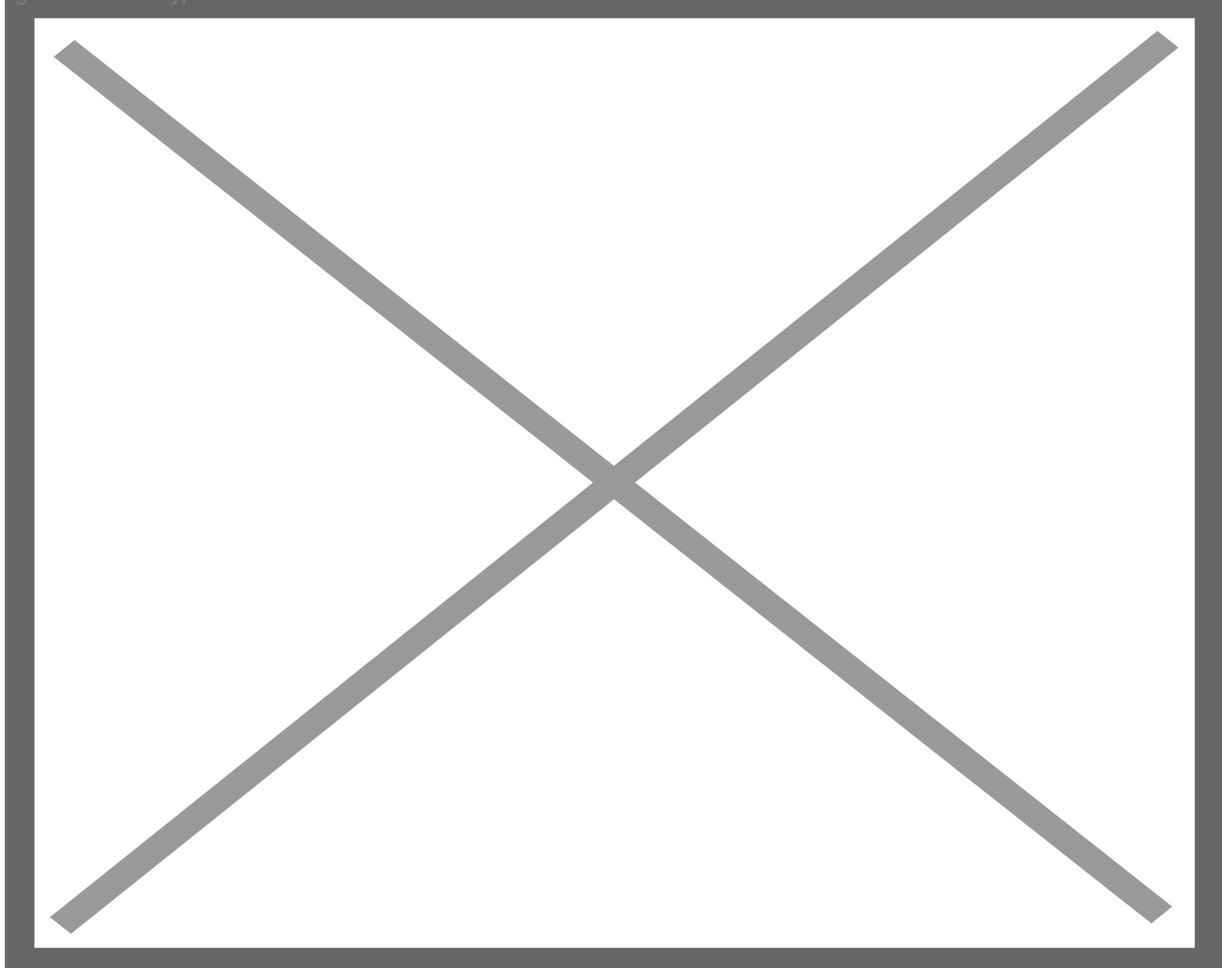


Tropical Disturbance Forms in Atlantic With Conditions Favorable for Development

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The National Hurricane Center says the tropical wave will meet conditions conducive for development.

An tropical wave emerging off the west coast of Africa is seeing conditions conducive for further development, according to the National Hurricane Center's Friday 2:00 a.m. update. The developing system has been spotted in the Eastern Tropical Atlantic and is currently producing disorganized showers and thunderstorms.

Forecasters are suggesting that a tropical depression could potentially form during the early to middle portions of the coming week.

The system is currently projected to move westward across the eastern and central tropical Atlantic at a speed of 15 to 20 mph.

At present, the probability of formation within the next 48 hours is estimated to be low at 0 percent. However, formation chances grow to 40 percent in the 7-day forecast window, a probability factor falling under a medium risk category.

NHC says it will continue to closely monitor the developing situation. The public is encouraged to follow local weather reports and take necessary precautions as the situation unfolds.

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