

12 February 2026

South African Weather Service Update on Tropical Cyclone Gezani

The South African Weather Service (SAWS) continues to closely monitor a tropical cyclone Gezani, currently located in the Mozambique Channel. There remains no direct threat to South Africa at this stage. Gezani, which developed over the south-west Indian Ocean to the east of Madagascar, made landfall over Madagascar as a tropical cyclone on Tuesday afternoon. After moving inland, it weakened to an overland depression before entering the Mozambique Channel. Upon entering the Mozambique Channel, where environmental conditions are favourable, the system intensified to tropical storm status and subsequently to tropical cyclone stage this afternoon.

Gezani is currently moving west-southwest and strengthening. Under favourable conditions, Gezani is expected to intensify steadily over the next 36 hours and could reach intense tropical cyclone stage late on Friday (13 February 2026) evening near the Mozambique coast. The intensity forecast is then uncertain from Saturday onwards.

The scenario of a Mozambique landfall remains uncertain and varies among forecast models, but cannot be ruled out. Current guidance suggests a very close approach to the Mozambican coast, with the possibility of a partial and temporary landfall. This could result in accumulated rainfall amounts of 80 – 100 mm in less than 24 hours near the coast and locally 200 mm at the point of closest approach to the system. Wave heights are expected to increase significantly from Friday noon, exceeding 4,0 m and temporarily reaching 7,0 – 10,0 m between Friday night and Saturday morning.

The SAWS advises vessels operating in or transiting through the south-west Indian Ocean and the Mozambique Channel, as well as offshore marine operations to exercise caution, as rough seas, strong winds, and hazardous marine conditions are expected in the vicinity of the storm.

**Certified for
Excellence**

Board Members: Ms Sandika Daya (Chairperson), Prof. Sylvester Mpandeli (Deputy Chairperson), Dr Lesley Luthuli, Ms Mpho Mogodi, Dr Phumudzo Tharaga, Prof. Thando Ndarana, Ms Balebetje Zondi, Adv. Ikaneng Mokgosi, Ms Ané Bruwer, Dr Prittish Dala, Mr Maesela Kekana, Mr Ishaam Abader (CEO).

Acting Company Secretary: Ms Karabo Moreroa

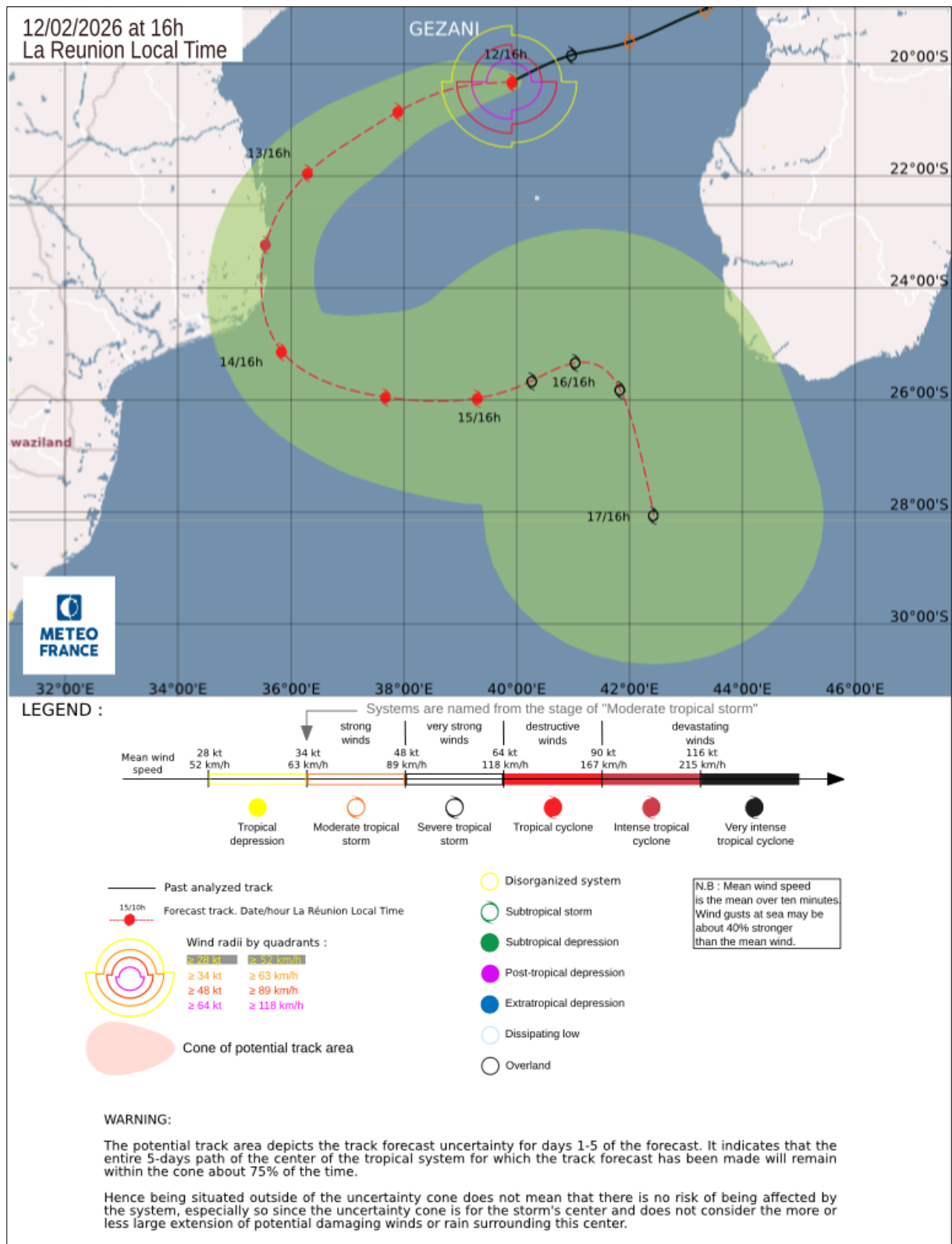


Figure 1: Forecast track of Tropical Storm Gezani at 16h00 La Réunion local time (14h00 SAST) on 12 February 2026, showing west-southwestward movement towards Mozambique. (Source: Météo-France)

The SAWS will continue to monitor the system closely and will issue updates as new information becomes available. The public and relevant authorities are urged to follow official weather warnings and advisories from reliable sources.

For regular updates, please visit <https://www.weathersa.co.za> or follow SAWS official media channels.

Compiled by: Dr Ramontsheng Rapolaki and Ms Stella Nake

Edited by: Ms Kanyisa Makubalo

Approved by: Ms Lebogang Makgati, Senior Manager: Marine

For technical and weather enquiries:

SAWS Marine Services (Cape Town): Tel: 021 935 5700

Media enquiries: Ms Hannelee Doubell: Manager, Communications; Tel: (012) 367 6104; Cell: 072 222 6305; E-mail: hannelee.doubell@weathersa.co.za

USSD: Dial *120*7297#; Weather-ready, Climate-smart

Download our WeatherSMART APP free from the App store:

For Apple Smartphones: <https://apps.apple.com/za/app/weathersmart/id1045032640>

For Android Smartphones: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=za.co.afrigis.saws.droid.activity&gl=ZA>