

# Hurricane Dorian

## INFORMATION NOTE No. 4

AS OF 5:00 PM (AST) ON AUGUST 31, 2019

### Synopsis of Hurricane Dorian

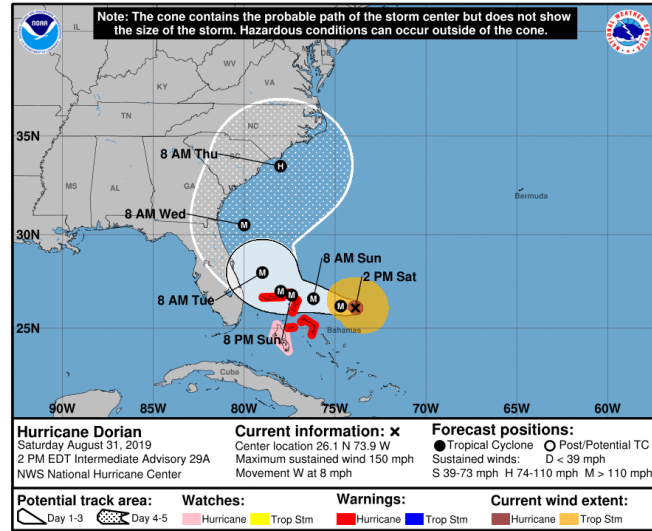
**LOCATION: 170 MILES (270 KM) EAST OF GREAT ABACO ISLAND**

**PRESENT MOVEMENT: WEST AT 8 MPH (13 KM/H)**

**MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 150 MPH (240 KM/H)**

**MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE: 945 MB (27.91 IN)**

- **HURRICANE WARNING**  
Northwestern Bahamas excluding Andros Island
- **HURRICANE WATCH**  
Andros Island



Hurricane Dorian forecast track – 5:00 PM (AST)  
August 31, 2019

### National Hurricane Center (NHC) Update

According to the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida, as of 5:00 PM (AST) on August 31, 2019, the eye of Hurricane Dorian was located near latitude 26.2 North, longitude 74.4 West. Dorian is moving toward the west near 8 mph (13 km/h) and a slower westward motion should continue over the next day or two followed by a gradual turn to the northwest. On this track, the core of Dorian should move near or over portions of the northwestern Bahamas on Sunday September 1, 2019.

Maximum sustained winds are near 150 mph (240 km/h) with higher gusts. Dorian is a category 4 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 30 miles (45 km) from the centre. Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 105 miles (165 km).

The estimated minimum central pressure is 945 mb (27.91 inches).

## **Caribbean Institute For Meteorology And Hydrology (CIMH) Analysis (as of 2:00 PM)**

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.*

- **WEATHER:** Gradual deterioration in weather conditions is expected as Dorian continues to strengthen as a Category 4 hurricane.
- **RAINFALL:** Dorian is expected to produce total rainfall accumulations this weekend into the middle of next week of 10 to 15 inches (isolated 25 inches) in northwestern Bahamas, and 2 to 4 inches (isolated 6 inches) in central Bahamas. This rainfall may cause life-threatening flash floods.
- **WINDS:** Hurricane conditions are expected in the hurricane warning area across the northwestern Bahamas by Sunday, with tropical storm winds beginning tonight, August 31, 2019.
- **WAVES:** Storm surge may reach 10 to 15 feet above normal tide levels in the northwestern Bahamas. Near the coast, the surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves. Swells will begin to affect the east-facing shores of the Bahamas during the next few days and could cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions. A marine advisory remains in effect for boat operations, small craft operators and port operations in the warning areas.
- **SUMMARY:** Hurricane Dorian could be a significant rainfall event with high potential for flooding which may cause life-threatening flash floods and landslides.

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

- The Regional Coordination Plan (RCP) remains activated.
- CDEMA, with the financial support of the Government of the United Kingdom and on behalf of the Caribbean Development Partners Group on Disaster Management, today deployed two (2) Rapid Needs Assessment Teams to Nassau, Bahamas and a deployment lead who will be stationed at the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) in Nassau.
- The teams which are led by CDEMA, comprise 18 persons and will include representatives of the CDEMA Participating States, as well as the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC), Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Port Managers Association of the Caribbean (PMAC), Private Sector, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the World Food Programme (WFP).
- This deployment is in direct response to a request from the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.
- The Rapid Needs Assessment Teams are expected to support assessments on the family islands most impacted by Dorian in the aftermath of the event. The teams will support the Government of the Bahamas in rapidly assessing the damage from the hurricane and in prioritizing needs.
- CDEMA and the UN Resident Coordinator Co-Chaired the seventh meeting of the Regional Response Mechanism Partners - Caribbean Development Partners Group - Disaster Management (CDPG DM), at 1:00 PM today, August 31, 2019. The Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) provided a brief to this meeting.
- The Regional Response Teams remain on ALERT: CARICOM Disaster Assessment and Coordination (CDAC), CARICOM Operational Support Team (COST), the Multi-National Civil Military Coordination Cell (MNCCC) and the CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit (CDRU).
- CDEMA continues to maintain communication with the Bahamas to discuss pre-impact scenario plans and to ascertain preliminary needs at this time
- CDEMA CU urges all Participating States and members of the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) to continue to monitor the progress of this system

## Summary of National Actions Undertaken by CDEMA PS



### BAHAMAS

#### National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

- The Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) on Abaco and Grand Bahama have been activated.
- The NEOC in Nassau, New Providence was activated on Friday August 30, 2019.
- Abaco: The Government of Bahamas evacuated persons residing in the Abaco Cayes (northern Bahamas) to Exuma (central Bahamas)
- Grand Bahama: The Government of The Bahamas has evacuated portions of the western and eastern parts of the island which are low-lying to a government owned hotel in the central section of the island on higher ground.
- Preparations are ongoing

#### List of preparatory actions/pledges being undertaken by the RRM Partners as of 2:00 PM (AST) on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

##### CARICOM IMPACS

- Immigration support in event of displacement

##### CARPHA

- Able to provide specialist of the RNAT – Health/ Environmental Health Assessment and WASH
- Able to provide public health /shelter surveillance support
- Able to assist with post disaster vector control assessment/ support
- Able to provide post flooding food safety guidance
- Able to provide laboratory surveillance support (reference/referral or on site testing support)
- Risk communications assistance

##### CIMH

- Provide special weather interpretation of the current and forecasted tropical weather affecting the Caribbean Region for CDEMA's operation planning.

##### ECHO (EU)

- Pledged human resources to support operations
- Activation of COPERNICUS (EU Satellite) for real-time information and remote damage assessment.
- Offer of humanitarian experts and emergency response tools on request of affected states.

##### GAC

- Pledged one (1) Airport Specialist for rapid needs assessment
- Funding provided for small early recovery projects through a grant response fund at CDEMA

##### IOM

- Able to support Camp Coordination – Camp Management expertise
- Logistics for distribution of NFIs
- Shelter – Housing coordination
- Emergency NFI stock in HRD Panama and USAID Haiti

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## **List of preparatory actions/pledges being undertaken by the RRM Partners as of 2:00 PM (AST) on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.**

### **IFRC**

- Human resources for Disaster Coordination based in Haiti, Panama, Guadeloupe and Trinidad and Tobago.
- Stock prepositioned in Jamaica, Bahamas, Barbados, Saint Lucia and Trinidad & Tobago and Panama, Haiti, Dominican Republic and Cuba.
- Has pre-deployed the Regional Disaster Management Coordinator for IFRC to Nassau Bahamas.

### **RSS**

- CDRU on alert
- RSS Security Chiefs have been advised to place a 15-man squad on alert for possible deployment

### **PAHO**

- Instructed the country teams to support national preparatory actions and will provide updates.
- Pledged health sector infrastructure and public health support.
- Have pre-deployed two (2) officers to Nassau, Bahamas as a part of the RNAT

### **United Kingdom**

- Provided financial support to the CDEMA led Rapid Needs Assessment Team (RNAT)
- Able to provide surge to emergency rapid deployment teams.
- Have available stocks of non-food items: over 1000 collapsible jerry cans, 1000 hygiene kits, 1000 shelter kits pre-loaded on the RFA Mounts bay, 800 shelter kits and 1630 buckets stored in Antigua. Mounts Bay also trailing storm to provide any required support
- Able to assist with Search and Rescue Operations and Emergency Medical Teams
- Able to provide funding through Red Cross/ UN or NGOs: ECHO (EU)
- Pledged human resources to support operations.
- Activation of COPERNICUS (EU Satellite) for real-time information and remote damage assessment
- Offer of humanitarian experts and emergency response tools upon request of affected states

### **UNDP**

- Able to provide Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) facilitators, Gender and Recovery Specialists
- Able to support Social Protection and Cash Transfer Programmes.

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### **UNFPA**

- Have prepositioned 1250 hygiene kits in the region: 250 in Barbados, and 1000 in Antigua and Barbuda
- Able to deliver reproductive health kits upon request
- Able to provide surge specialist in the following; sexual and reproductive health, Gender Based Violence in Emergencies, Humanitarian Coordination and Operations (Health, Protection and Shelter)

### **UN OCHA**

- Pledged support with Information Management, coordination, advocacy and humanitarian financing
- Has pre-deployed two (2) officers to Nassau, Bahamas as part of the RNAT

### **WFP**

- Pledged logistical support (air, sea and land), emergency logistics hubs (storage solutions), and logistics experts – assessments, coordination and response; services and assets (air, sea, land),
- Coordinated deliveries of items stored at UNHRD Panama
- Experts – Emergency Telecommunications, Food security/ Relief Distribution, Assessment and Vulnerability Analysis, Shock Responsive Social Protection and Cash Transfer
- Food assistance
- Emergency Telecommunications Services and assets
- Has pre-deployed four (4) officers to Nassau, two (2) will form part of the RNAT