

Tropical Storm Kirk

INFORMATION NOTE No. 1

AS OF 5:00 PM (AST) ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

Synopsis of Tropical Storm Kirk

LOCATION: APPROXIMATELY 260 MILES EAST OF BARBADOS

PRESENT MOVEMENT: WNW AT 18 MPH

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 60 MPH

MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE: 998 MB

WATCHES AND WARNINGS ISSUED FOR CDEMA PARTICIPATING STATES:

- **TROPICAL STORM WARNING: Barbados, Saint Lucia, Dominica**
- **TROPICAL STORM WATCH: St. Vincent and the Grenadines**



TS Kirk forecast track – 5PM September 26, 2018 -NHC

NHC Update

According to the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida, as of 5:00 PM (AST) on September 26, 2018, the center of Tropical Storm Kirk was located near latitude 12.7 North, longitude 55.7 West.

On the forecast track, the center will move over the Lesser Antilles within the Tropical Storm Warning area on Thursday afternoon. Maximum sustained winds are near 60 mph (95 km/h) with higher gusts. Little change in strength is forecast until Kirk crosses the Lesser Antilles, followed by weakening over the eastern Caribbean Sea.

Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 115 miles (185 km) from the center.

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.*

- **RAINFALL:** Periods of intense rainfall are likely over Barbados and the Northern Windwards during the next 24 - 48 hours with the possibility of localized flash flooding especially in northern and western sections, ponding in low lying areas and minor disruptions to transportation.
- **WINDS:** Winds should gradually increase to Tropical storm force over Barbados and the Northern Windwards during passage possibly leading to localized tumbling of unsecured objects, flying debris and localized disruptions to power grid. Damage to old dilapidated infrastructure is possible. Tree fall is likely to occur in some areas.
- **WAVES:** Storm surge of 2 to 4 feet above normal tide levels is possible near and to the north of center. Swells in excess of 5 m resulting in choppy seas and rough waters can be expected. Damage to water craft possible if not secured. Significant risk to small craft operators.
- **In summary:** Kirk is expected to affect Barbados and the Northern Windwards with storm force winds and heavy rainfall on Thursday whilst the remainder of the island chain may get caught in surrounding spiral bands resulting in periods of intense rainfall and gusty winds. Weather conditions should deteriorate from overnight on Wednesday and periods of intense rainfall should spread across the island chain as Kirk passes just North of Barbados and over the Southern Windwards on Thursday.

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Actions

- The Regional Coordination Plan has been activated as of 8:00AM September 26, 2018 upon the directive from the CDEMA Executive Director.
- The Regional Response Units - CDRU, CDAC, COST, RNAT members have been placed on ALERT.
- CDEMA's Participating States have been contacted and requested to share updates on their preparations.
- The CDEMA CU has activated its internal contingency plan.
- CDEMA and CIMH facilitated a meeting of the Regional Response Mechanism Partners - Caribbean Development Partners Group - Disaster Management (CDPG DM, at 1:00 PM today, September 26, 2018).
- The CDEMA CU will continue to monitor Tropical Storm Kirk and provide updates as necessary.

Summary of National Actions Undertaken by CDEMA PS



BARBADOS - CENTRAL SUB-REGIONAL FOCAL POINT

DEM

- The Barbados Meteorological Service issued a Tropical Storm Warning for Barbados as of 5:00am today, September 26, 2018.
- Key disaster stakeholders have been advised that preparations are being finalised.
- The public has been advised through the national Early Warning System.
- A pre-strike meeting is scheduled for 2:00pm today, chaired by the Acting Prime Minister. The plan of action once finalized will be conveyed to the public.
- DEM in its capacity as SRFP has established contact with the members of its sub regional grouping and is making arrangements to perform its sub regional responsibilities, if necessary.
- DEM and the Meteorological service will continue to monitor the progress of TS Kirk and provide updates as necessary.



COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

ODM

- The Prime Minister and Cabinet are engaged and will guide further decisions.
- Key sectors of the National Emergency Planning Organization (NEPO) met today to discuss preparations, reports were received from Health, Police, Fire, Shelter, Utilities and Public Works sub committees.
- The public has been advised through the national Early Warning System. Shelters will be opened from 6:00 pm today September 26, 2018.
- Pre-positioning of heavy equipment is ongoing.
- The ODM along with the Dominica Meteorological Service will continue to monitor the system and provide updates to the public.

Summary of National Actions Undertaken by CDEMA PS



SAINT LUCIA

NEMO

- As of 5:00AM on September 26, 2018, the Saint Lucia Met Service has issued a Tropical Storm Warning for the island.
- The Acting Prime Minister, Cabinet Secretary and members of the National Emergency Management Advisory Committee (NEMAC) are engaged and will guide further decisions.
- The NEOC Teams (staff) are on standby.
- Media interviews have been conducted with various media houses.
- The National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) has been engaged in scenario planning for possible impacts from TS Kirk.
- All national district disaster committees have been placed on standby.
- National Emergency Communications test will be completed today.
- A pre-strive meeting is planned for this afternoon at 4:00pm.
- Public notices have been shared via the National Early Warning System.

List preparatory actions being undertaken by the RRM Partners [as of 5:00PM (AST) September 26, 2018]

GENERAL COORDINATION

DFID

- Pre-positioned relief stocks in Antigua (SRH) and on RFA Mounts Bay

ECHO

- Response and Disaster Risk Reduction operations on the ground through partners (IOM, IFRC, PAHO, UNICEF, UNDP)

GAC

- Launch of Mission Emergency Response Team and alert of HQ Watch Centre. Relevant mission and HQ teams are on alert to monitor the event.

IFRC

- Coordination between the IFRC's Caribbean Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) and operational teams in Dominica, and Barbados, and between CCST and ARO
- Coordination with IFRC resources in the region
- Coordination with all exposed National Societies
- Sharing of information message
- Reviewing field operations preparedness in Dominica
- All field staff have been briefed on the developing situation
- Pre-positioned resource in Panama to contribute to management of the shelter cluster should it be activated.
- Alert II to be declared for this event



LOGISTICS SUPPORT

ODPM:

- Warehouse personnel on standby



HEALTH & SANITATION

PAHO/WHO

- PAHO Emergency Team is on alert to monitor the tropical storm.