



Date: 11 October 2010

Situation Report No. 1 Belize – Tropical Storm Paula

This situation report is based on information received from the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), 4:30 p.m. briefing of the NEOC.

Situation

1. As of 4:00 p.m. today (11/10/10) tropical Storm Paula was located over the Caribbean coast of Nicaragua/ Honduras, some 300 miles SE of Belize City. The Tropical system is moving to the NW at 9 mph with sustained wind speeds of 60 mph. It is expected that TS Paula will re-emerged into the Caribbean and further developed into a Category 1 hurricane by 2:00 p.m. tomorrow (12/10/10).

An existing cold front moving across the country from west to east is expected to keep the storm from making landfall in Belize. However, all National emergency/response systems are being activated due partly to the proximity of the developing hurricane to the Belizean coast and a possible degeneration of the front resulting in the tropical system taking a more NE direction.

National Response

2. NEMO has declared a phase 1 warning for the country of Belize. All NEMO sub-committees have been activated as of 4:00 p.m.
3. A decision has been taken to suspended classes countrywide as school buildings are being prepared as shelters.
4. A small craft warning has been declared as well as the issuance of a mariner's advice to seek safe harbour.
5. NEMO has also issued a public advisory for the voluntary evacuation of coastal cayes. NEMO advises all persons wishing to evacuate the cayes to do so starting at first light tomorrow 12th October 2010.
6. A next briefing of NEMO is planned for 6:00 a.m. tomorrow (12/10/10)

International Response

The UN System remains alert and acts to continue its monitoring of the situation. The system stands to support national efforts of preparedness if requested.

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