

8 March 2022

Tropical Storm Gombe heading to Mozambique Channel

Tropical Storm Gombe has just made landfall over northern Madagascar (Figure 1) and is expected to move into the Mozambique Channel tomorrow, 9 March 2022.

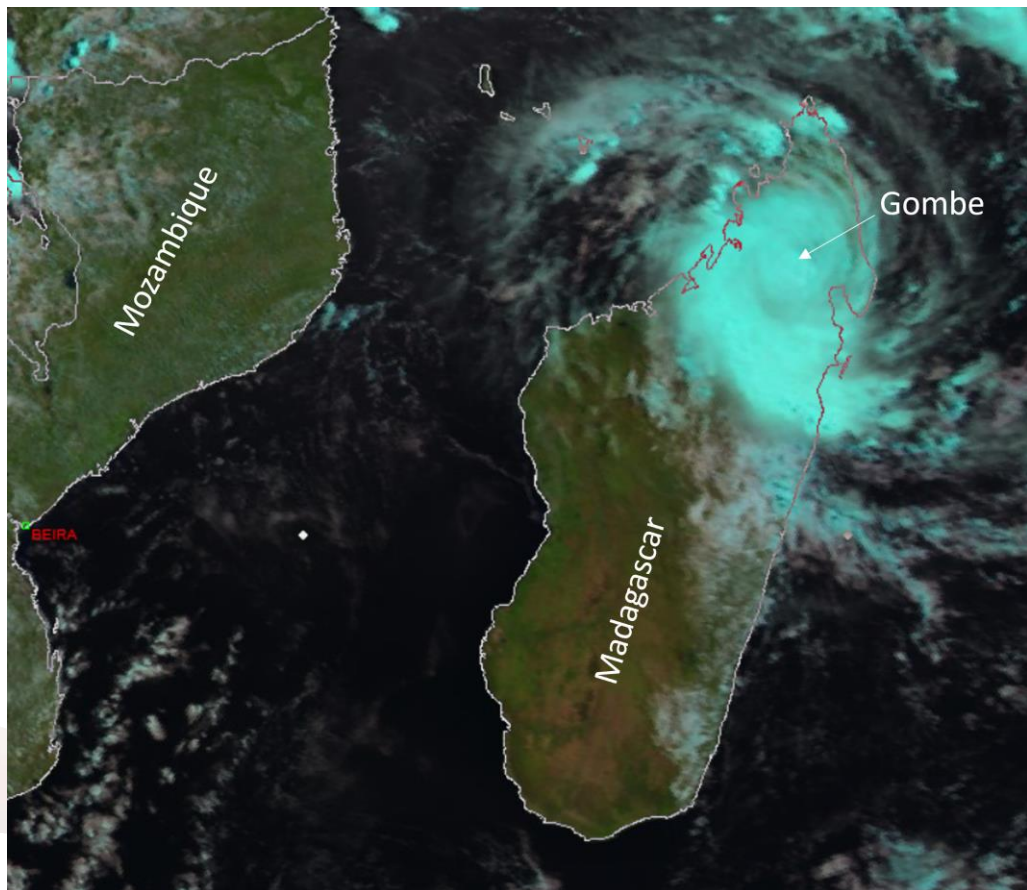


Figure 1: Day Natural Colour RGB satellite image showing current location of Gombe over northern Madagascar on 8 March 2022 at 09h00 SAST. Image © Eumetsat

**Certified for
Excellence**

Board Members: Ms Feziwe Renqe (Chairperson), Mr Itani Phaduli (Deputy Chairperson), Ms Sandika Daya, Ms Mmapula Kgari, Ms Nana Magomola, Prof Sylvester Mpandeli, Mr Grant Son, Dr Mmaphaka Tau, Mr Peter Lukey (DFFE Rep), Mr Ishaam Abader (CEO).

Company Secretary: Ms Milicent Fatlane (Interim Company Secretary)

Once in the Channel, Gombe is expected to strengthen as a result of the warm sea surface temperatures (SST) combined with moisture from the ocean. Gombe is forecasted to reach tropical cyclone intensity by Friday, 11 March 2022, when it is projected to briefly make landfall over northern Mozambique (Figure 2). This landfall will be short lived, as currently Gombe is once again expected to enter the Mozambique Channel by Sunday (13 March 2022).

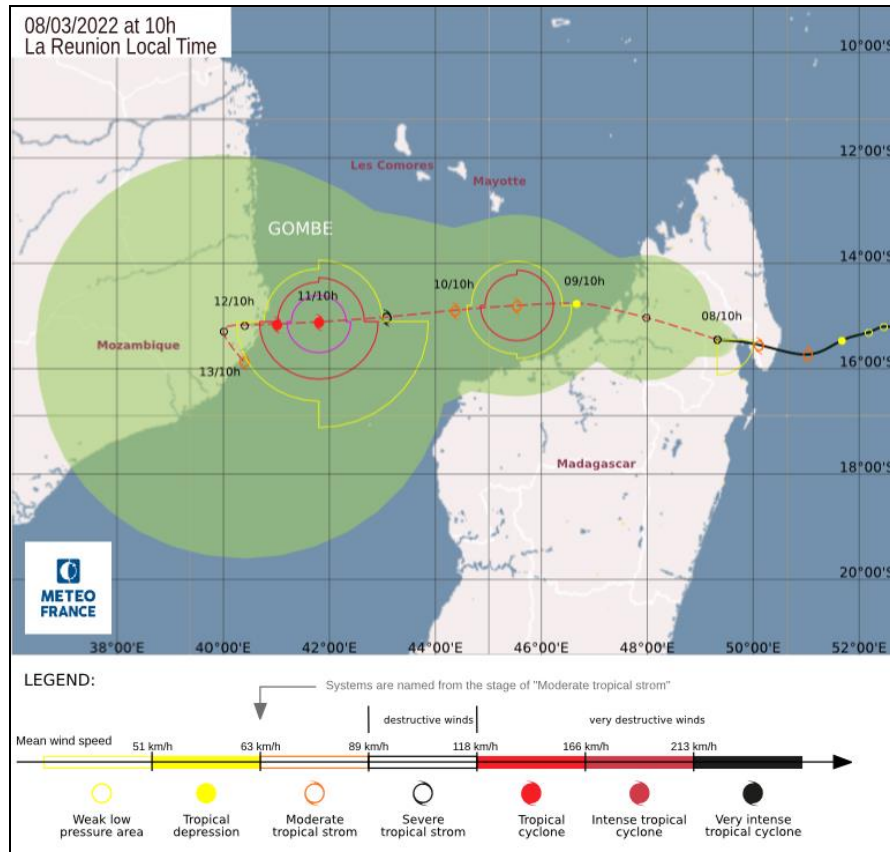


Figure 2: The latest forecast track for Gombe, as issued by Regional Specialized Meteorological centre (RSMC) La Reunion at 08h00 SAST on 8 March 2022. Source: MeteoFrance

At this stage, Gombe poses no direct threat to South Africa. South Africans can be assured that the South African Weather Service will continue to closely the situation and issue updates as and when necessary.

The South African Weather Service will continue to closely monitor developments in this regard and will issue updates as and when necessary.

Compiled by Elizabeth Viljoen and Ezekiel Sebegu

For technical and weather enquiries:

National Forecasting Centre: Tel: 012 367 6041

Media enquiries: Ms Hannelee Doubell: Acting Senior Manager, Communications and Stakeholder Relations; 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>