

# HURRICANE MELISSA HAITI AND JAMAICA

## SITUATION REPORT No. 1

AS OF 8:00PM AST on 27th, OCTOBER, 2025

### Hurricane Melissa Impacts Haiti, Jamaica and Threatens The Bahamas and the Turks & Caicos Islands

#### HURRICANE WARNING IN EFFECT

FOR: **JAMAICA, SOUTHEASTERN & CENTRAL BAHAMAS**

#### HURRICANE WATCH IN EFFECT

FOR: **TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS**

#### TROPICAL STORM WARNING IN EFFECT FOR:

**HAITI, TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS**

LOCATION: **16.6N 78.6W ABOUT 155 MI (245 KM) SW OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA**

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: **175 MPH (280 KM/H)**

MIN CENTRAL PRESSURE: **909 MB (26.85 IN)**

PRESENT MOVEMENT: **NW at 2 MPH (4 KM/H)**

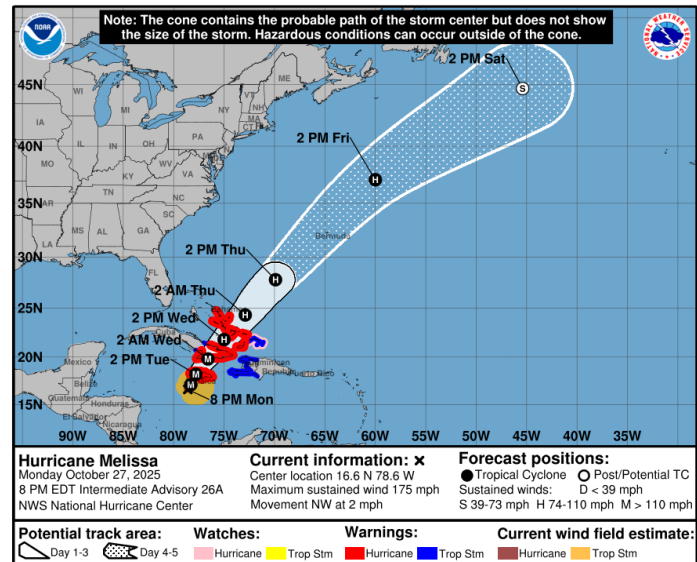


Figure 1: NHC's Warning Cone Static Image  
Source: <https://www.noaa.gov/at 8:00 PM 20251027>

## SITUATION

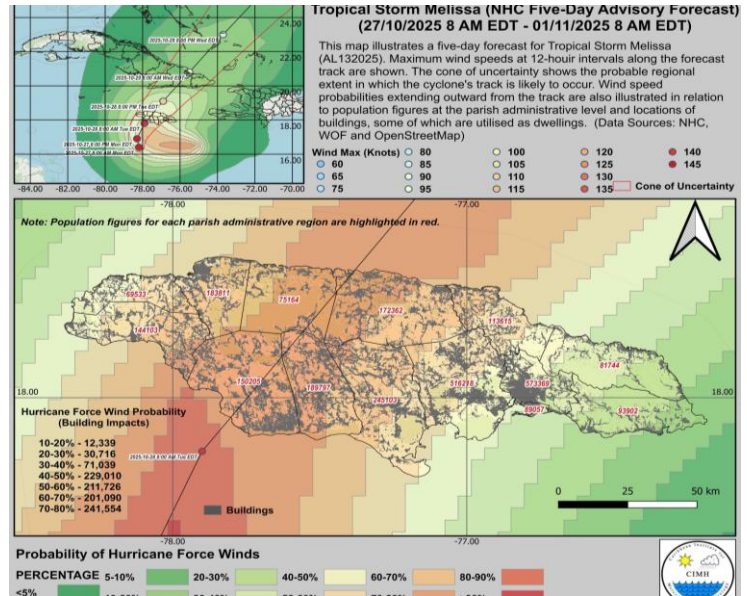
Hurricane Melissa formed on October 25, 2025, in the Caribbean Sea. The system initially affected Haiti as a tropical storm as early as October 23, resulting in flooding, landslides and several deaths. The system has strengthened into a Category 5 storm and was located near latitude 16.6 North, longitude 78.6 West at 8:00 p.m. AST, or 155 miles (245 km) southwest of Kingston Jamaica. Maximum sustained winds are near 155 mph (245 km/h) with higher wind gusts. Hurricane Melissa is tracking slowly westward at near 2 mph (4 km/h). Hurricane force winds extend 30 mi (45 km) from the centre and tropical storm force winds extend 195 mi (315 km), with a central pressure of 909 mb (26.85 in).

On its current track, the storm centre will move near or over Jamaica early on Tuesday, October 28 (Figure 1) with a significant threat of catastrophic flash floods, landslides and urban flooding. Rainfall totals of 15 - 30 inches are expected over Jamaica, with localised maximums of 40 inches, possible in the impacted areas. Southern Haiti may receive an additional 6 - 12 inches through Wednesday. The storm is forecast to cross the southeastern or central Bahamas on Wednesday (October 29). The following CDEMA Participating States may also be impacted by Hurricane Melissa later this week: The Bahamas (Central, Southeastern) and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

# 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. CIMH is not an official forecasting agency.

- Hurricane Melissa has intensified to a Category 5 hurricane with a well-defined eye. Melissa is expected to undergo eyewall replacement which is not anticipated to significantly weaken the system. It is expected to impact Jamaica as an extremely powerful major hurricane and is forecast to maintain hurricane strength as it moves across the southeastern Bahamas.
- On the forecast track, the core of Melissa is expected to move over Jamaica tonight and early Tuesday, then across the southeastern Bahamas on Wednesday.



**Figure 2: Probability of**  
**Source: CIMH**

## Rainfall Impact Forecast

- Hurricane Melissa is expected to produce 15-30 inches of rain across Jamaica, with local maxima up to 40 inches, causing catastrophic flash flooding and numerous landslides. Southern Haiti may receive 8-16 inches through Wednesday, and the southeastern Bahamas are forecast to receive 4-8 inches from Tuesday into Wednesday, leading to localised flash flooding.

## Wind Impact Forecast

- Tropical storm conditions are occurring in Jamaica, and catastrophic and life-threatening hurricane-force wind conditions are expected to begin tonight and continue into early Tuesday (Figure 2).
- Tropical storm conditions are expected in Haiti late Tuesday and Wednesday. However, the wind threat is diminishing.
- Tropical storm and hurricane conditions are possible in the southeastern and central Bahamas, as well as the Turks and Caicos Islands, on Wednesday.

## Marine Impact Forecast

- Life-threatening storm surge is likely along the south coast of Jamaica tonight and on Tuesday. Peak storm surge heights could reach 9 to 13 feet above ground level, near and to the east of where the center of Melissa makes landfall. This storm surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves. Storm surge of 4 to 6 ft above normally dry ground is possible in the southeastern Bahamas and Turks and Caicos Islands on Wednesday. Swells generated by Melissa are expected to affect portions of Haiti, Jamaica, The Cayman Islands, The Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands during the next several days.

# Updates from the Threatened Participating States



## HAITI

### Report from the Director - General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC) in Haiti

- Local advisories in effect are: **Red Vigilance – Cyclones** for the South and Grand-Anse departments, **Orange Vigilance – Cyclones** for the departments of Nippes, Artibonite, West, and Northwest, and **Yellow Vigilance -Heavy Rain** for the Southeast.
- Meeting held today with UN agencies regarding contingency stocks, response, and relief efforts.
- Public awareness and risk communication efforts continue through automated calls, radio, and volunteer mobilisation, reaching hundreds of thousands.
- The government has prohibited all maritime activity until further notice.
- Flight operations to and from the Great South have been temporarily suspended.
- Refer to Figure 3 for Hurricane Melissa Impacts as of Monday, October 27, 2025.



**Figure 3: Haiti's Hurricane Melissa Impact Overview as at, October 27, 2025**



# Updates from the Threatened Participating States



## JAMAICA

### Report from the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) in Jamaica

- Expected landfall: near the Westmoreland–St. Elizabeth border, moving northeast across Trelawny/St. James through to St. Ann. Projected exit: Tuesday evening, near the St. Ann coastline.
- Hurricane-force winds ( $\geq 120$  mph / 190 km/h) expected over Westmoreland and St. Elizabeth.
- Highest storm surge risk (up to 14 ft) in Black River (St. Elizabeth) area. Additional surge risk in Portland Cottage, Salt River (Clarendon), Old Harbour Bay, and coastal St. Catherine–Kingston.
- System projected to move across Jamaica in ~6–8 hours from south to north once landfall occurs.
- Situation Updates:
  - The Prime Minister of Jamaica, in keeping with the powers under section 26(2)(c) of the Disaster Risk Management Act, has issued the Disaster Risk Management Evacuation Order for specified vulnerable communities (Figure 4) effective Sunday, October 26. The Evacuation Order remains effective for as long as the Declaration of Threatened Area Order is in force.
  - Evacuation completed for Rocky Point and Portland Cottage.
  - As at 6:00 p.m. EST, on Sunday, October 26, all 881 shelters were activated with 79 currently open, housing 826 persons.
  - A total of 2100 National Disaster Risk Management Volunteer Programme (NDRMVP) volunteers are on standby.
  - Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Teams have been placed on standby.
  - The Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) team has been mobilised and is on standby.
- An Emergency Response Coordination Platform was established for coordination of all donor pledges both financial and physical. Link to the platform: <https://escpjamaica.dfamonitoring.org/en>.



**Figure 4: Jamaica's Hurricane Melissa Impact Overview as at, October 27, 2025**

# Updates from the Threatened Participating States



## THE BAHAMAS

### *Report from the Disaster Risk Management Authority*

- The Prime Minister of Bahamas has issued an evacuation order for central and southeastern islands (Figure 5).



***Figure 5: Central and Southeastern Islands under government-issued evacuation order***



## THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

### *Report from the Hazard Management Cayman Islands (HCMI)*

- Marine Watch in effect for the Cayman Islands.
- Relief readiness: Cayman Islands ready to support affected territories through the National Hazard Management Executive and CDEMA — including possible funding, relief supplies, equipment, and trained personnel.
- Citizen assistance: Coordination in place to support Cayman citizens in impacted areas and nationals from impacted territories currently in Cayman (assistance with education, health, and immigration needs).
- Public information: Launch of public education campaign discouraging unsolicited donations and urging contributions through reputable channels.



## TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

### *Report from the Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies (DDME)*

- Preparedness measures underway: activation of shelters and identification of safe sites in anticipation of storm surge risk from unusual storm approach direction.
- Flood maps being updated and evacuation procedures refined.
- Press conference held with Executive Members and Meteorological Director Dr. Holly Hamilton to brief the public.
- High public engagement: Residents obtaining sandbags and tarps; visible increase in personal preparedness.

## **Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG) - Actions by the RRM Partners as of 8:00 p.m. on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**



### **COORDINATION**

- Hurricane Melissa ReliefWeb Response page: <https://response.reliefweb.int/latin-america-and-caribbean/hurricane-melissa>.
- CDEMA reminds all response teams to be on standby including Rapid Needs Assessment Teams.
- CDPG Co-leads to assist with mobilisation of teams for to standby for rapid deployment
- Convened the Caribbean Development Partners Group (CDPG) Meeting #6 for Hurricane Melissa at 3:00 PM AST, Monday, October 27, 2025, to coordinate preparedness actions and exchange information.
- The CDEMA Information Note #6 published.



### **MNCCC**

- Structured daily meetings to commence tomorrow.



### **EARLY RECOVERY**

- Recovery Experts Roster open for new registrations; over 85 experts registered thus far. Please continue to circulate link: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=abf6Z06njUudzmVr7saoBTmixCAA91pNsK-GEgDxredUQjROVUdKNkM2QzdaUIJQT0VHSVg3TloxVC4u&route=shorturl>.
- UNICEF and UNESCO coordinating with the Ministry of Education, Jamaica, on data gathering and needs assessments.
- Online schooling to be supported via Learning Passport (early childhood–grade 3) with hurricane preparedness and MHPSS content.
- Over 1,000 teachers trained in MHPSS; can be mobilised to support recovery and student wellbeing.
- Prepositioned “return-to-school kits” to arrive in Jamaica from UNICEF Panama hub in immediate aftermath.
- UNESCO seeking emergency funds to replace learning materials and support post-disaster assessments.
- CARILEC: 102 electrical utility personnel on standby to support power restoration.

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## **Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG) - Actions by the RRM Partners as of 8:00 p.m. on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**



### **SHELTER**

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- Government of Jamaica requested IOM to co-lead the Shelter Technical Working Group.
- IOM deploying staff to Jamaica to support shelter coordination and NFI distributions.
- Monitoring evacuations in the Bahamas; possible temporary accommodation support for vulnerable evacuees.



### **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION**

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- Starlink units pre-positioned across Jamaica; additional equipment may be required.
- Vodafone Foundation and Télécoms Sans Frontières ready to provide power, Starlink units, and volunteers.



### **HEALTH**

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- Health teams in Jamaica in emergency mode; backup power and supplies secured.
- Hospitals in Jamaica expected to remain operational; satellite and radio communications available.
- UNFPA ready to provide dignity kits, sexual and reproductive health, and psychosocial support.
- UNICEF Jamaica is in coordination with Ministry of Health on vector control, WASH, nutrition, psychosocial support and UWI is on standby to support RNAT and the COST.

## Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG) - Actions by the RRM Partners as of 8:00 p.m. on October 27th, 2025



### PRIVATE SECTOR

- Daily meetings of the TWG initiated.
- Regional BSO meeting scheduled for tomorrow, Tuesday, October 28, to coordinate private sector response and supply support.



### PROTECTION

- UN Women and UNICEF: designing cash transfer initiative for low-income women (especially survivors of GBV, caregivers of children 0–5).
- UN Women and UNFPA: strengthening GBV referral systems and emergency response pathways.
- CARE International and Caribbean Gender Alliance: mobilising CSO network response via the Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers; agricultural sector focus.
- Emergency funds triggered for CSO activities in Jamaica.



### RELIEF & LOGISTICS

- Relief & Logistics Working Group tools activated:
  - Control Tower: tracks cargo shipments to states under hurricane warning.
  - Log:IE Platform: monitors access to airports and seaports (updated daily).
  - Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs) for key countries available online.
- WFP deploying Supply Chain Expert to Jamaica once airports reopen.
- CDEMA facilitating cargo movement under existing MOUs with air carriers.
- Coordination ongoing with Bahamas NDO, Sunrise Airways, interCaribbean for evacuations.
- RLTWG website: <https://logcluster.org/en/relief-and-logistics-thematic-working-group-rltwg>



## **Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG) - Actions by the RRM Partners as of 5:00 p.m. on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**



### **WASH**

- Daily WASH coordination meetings initiated.
- Response tracking dashboard operational for real-time monitoring.
- 15 trained responders (engineers, operators, GIS techs) ready for 48–72-hour deployment.
- Solar-powered mobile desalination unit (20,000 gal/day) available via Dutch government (in St. Eustatius).

### **Summary**

- Thanks are extended to all RRM partners for their continued support to regional preparedness, response and recovery.
- CDEMA, in collaboration with CIMH and the RRM partners, will continue to monitor the progress of Hurricane Melissa, maintain communication with threatened Participating States, and issue updates to all partners as needed.

### **Links to Previous Information Notes and Situation Reports**

[Hurricane Melissa Information Note #1](#)

[Hurricane Melissa Information Note #2](#)

[Hurricane Melissa Information Note #3](#)

[Hurricane Melissa Information Note #4](#)

[Hurricane Melissa Information Note #5](#)

### **Links to Needs Lists and Other Information:**

[Hurricane Melissa Documents](#)