

# HURRICANE ERNESTO

## SITUATION REPORT #1

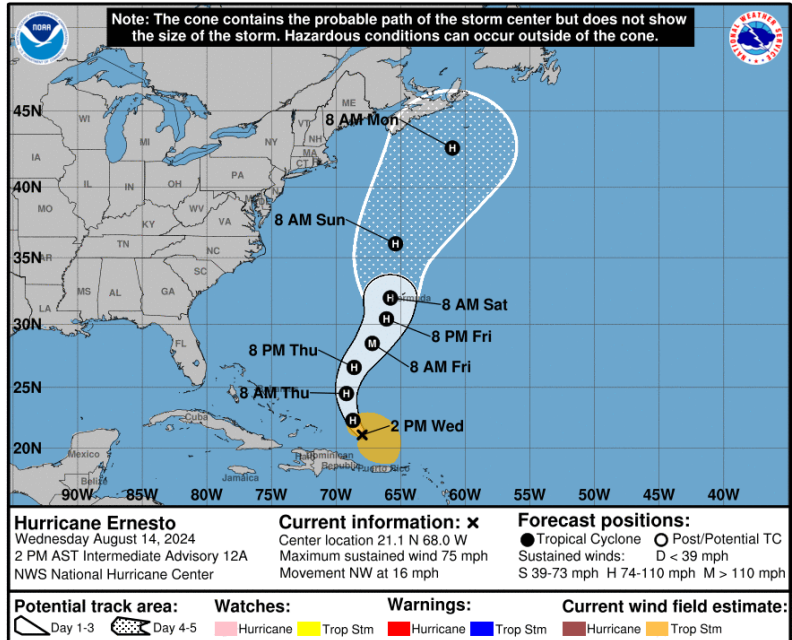
**3:00 PM on 14TH AUGUST 2024**

### Hurricane Ernesto Not a Major Threat to CDEMA Participating States

The National Hurricane Center is issuing advisories on recently upgraded Hurricane Ernesto, located a couple of hundred miles northwest of Puerto Rico.

**Tropical Storm Watches and Warnings** have been discontinued for Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, Sint Maarten, Puerto Rico and U.S Virgin Islands.

**Tropical Storm Warnings** are in effect for British Virgin Islands and Vieques and Culebra



(Source: National Hurricane Centre)

At 2:00 PM AST (1800 UTC), the center of Hurricane Ernesto was located near latitude 21.1 North, longitude 68.0 West. Ernesto is moving toward the northwest near 16 mph (26 km/h). A turn toward the north-northwest and north is expected later today and tonight, with a generally northward motion at a slower forward speed continuing through Saturday. On the forecast track, the center of Ernesto will continue to move away from Puerto Rico today, move across the western Atlantic during the next few days, and approach Bermuda Friday and Saturday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 75 mph (120 km/h) with higher gusts. Strengthening is forecast during the next couple of days.

Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 35 miles (55 km) from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 230 miles (370 km).

## Weather Update from the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) at 1:00 PM, 14th August 2024.

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:** Hurricane Ernesto is expected to produce total rain accumulations of 4 to 6 inches over the U.S and British Virgin Islands. Rainfall totals of 6 to 8 inches, with maximum amounts of 10 inches, are expected across southeastern Puerto Rico, with totals of 2 to 4 inches across northwestern Puerto Rico. Elsewhere in the Caribbean, Hurricane Ernesto is expected to produce the following rain accumulations through Friday morning, with 2-4 inches of rain expected for Eastern Hispaniola.

**Rainfall:** The accumulated rainfall expected is about 4 to 6 inches over portions of the Leewards and Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico, 6 to 3 to 6 inches of rainfall is expected with maximum of 10 inches.

**Winds:** Tropical storm conditions, especially in gusts, will continue across the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Vieques, and Culebra through the day.

**Marine:** Swells generated by Ernesto are affecting portions of the Leeward Islands, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. These swells will reach the southeastern Bahamas today, and Bermuda and the rest of the Bahamas on Thursday. Swells are expected to reach the east coast of the United States Thursday night and continue into the weekend. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions.

## Updates from the CDEMA Participating States



### BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

- ✓ No significant damage has been reported to homes or businesses.
- ✓ The EOC is scheduled to meet with the Governor to make a decision on officially issuing an all clear.
- ✓ The storm brought 5.5 to 8 inches of rainfall and winds of 85 miles per hour; the Feeder Bands brought the most intense rainfall.
- ✓ Swells remain high; local ferries remain in the port and some coastal villages have been flooded.
- ✓ Reports were received of down trees and electrical lines; fallen trees have blocked roads and driveways.
- ✓ Conditions on August 14 were overcast, with a flash flood warning in effect until afternoon.

## Reports from the CDEMA Participating States

- ✓ **Antigua and Barbuda** – No assistance requested from CDEMA. TS Warning discontinued at 2:00PM 13 August 2024; All clear issued. Flash flood warning continued into last night.
- ✓ **Montserrat** – No assistance requested from CDEMA; TS Warning discontinued as of 5:00PM 13 August 2024. Reports of downed trees, some areas of the island were without power, utilities working to restore same.
- ✓ **Anguilla** – No assistance requested from CDEMA. TS Warning discontinued as of 8:00PM 13 August 2024; Public services to resume Wednesday 14 August 2024.
- ✓ **Sint Maarten** – No assistance requested from CDEMA; TS Warning discontinued as of 8:00PM 13 August 2024; A small craft warning remains in effect; A flood watch is in effect until 6:00PM Wednesday August 14, 2024. Princess Juliana International Airport expected to resume operations at 7:00AM Wednesday 14 August 2024.
- ✓ **St Kitts and Nevis** – No assistance requested from CDEMA. TS Warning discontinued as of 8:00PM Tuesday 13 August 2024. All clear issued. All government offices will reopen on Wednesday 14 August 2024.

## Updates from the CDEMA System

The Regional Coordination Plan and Regional Coordination Centre remain active following response to Hurricane Beryl. In response to Tropical Storm Ernesto, the CDEMA CU:

- ✓ Convened the 2nd Caribbean Development Partners Group (CDPG) meeting on 14 August 2024.
- ✓ The CDEMA CU remains in contact with the RRM Focal Points and Participating States on rainfall and flooding.

### Response Teams:

- ✓ The Response Teams remain on alert, however they are scheduled to stand down once there is no Level Two response required and no requests from the Participating States.
- ✓ The telecommunications equipment continues to be checked and reviewed frequently.

## RRM PARTNER UPDATES

### PAHO/WHO

- ✓ No reports of TS Ernesto's impact in health sector in the countries/territories.
- ✓ Remain in close contact with MOH disaster coordinators/focal points especially BVI, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda and Bermuda.