

## $\Gamma \mathrm{EMA}$ Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency

8221 NISKY, ST. THOMAS, VI 00802 TEL. (340) 774-2244 FAX (340) 714-4470 2164 KING CROSS ST., CHRISTIANSTED, VI 00820 TEL. (340) 773-2244 FAX (340) 778-8980

6 SUSANNABERG, ST. JOHN, VI 00830 TEL. (340) 776-6444 FAX (340) 779-4266

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 13, 2019 **Press Contact:** Garry Green (340) 713-6801 www.vitema.vi.gov garry.green@vitema.vi.gov

## **VITEMA Currently Monitoring Weather Disturbances in the Eastern Atlantic Ocean**

U.S. Virgin Islands – The Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA) is actively monitoring the progress of two tropical waves making their way across the Eastern Atlantic Ocean. Residents are advised to remain vigilant of weather systems that may impact the territory through November 30.

According to the National Hurricane Center, Disturbance 1 is currently located midway between the Cabo Verde Islands and the Lesser Antilles, at 39W from 06N-20N moving west at 10 to 15 knots. The disturbance is producing a large but disorganized area of cloudiness and showers. Conditions are expected to become more conducive for development, and a tropical depression could form early next week while the system moves westward across the tropical Atlantic.

Disturbance 2 is located a few hundred miles south-southeast of the Cabo Verde Islands at 53W, from 08N-21N, moving west at 10 to 15 knots. Slow development of this system is possible during the next several days while it moves westward across the tropical Atlantic.

"We are still in the peak of a very active Atlantic Hurricane Season," said VITEMA Director Daryl D. Jaschen. "While there are uncertainties in the forecast at this time, Virgin Islands residents are urged to remain vigilant, assess the readiness of your homes and stay informed. My team at VITEMA stands ready to respond to all emergencies within the territory. We will continue to monitor the progress of the disturbances as they continue to progress towards the territory."

## VITEMA urges residents to:

- Restock your emergency supplies. Include a minimum of ten (10) day supply of nonperishable food and water for consumption and hygiene purposes, medications, a flashlight, batteries, cash, and first aid supplies. Consider the special needs of elderly members and pets.
- Plan how to communicate with family members if you lose power. Remember that during disasters, sending text messages is usually reliable and faster than making phone calls. Ensure cellphones are fully charged.
- Protect your property. Trim trees and secure objects that can become projectiles. Declutter drains and gutters. Consider hurricane shutters. Review insurance policies.
- To ensure your generator works when you need it most, be sure to perform regular maintenance and services. Never operate your generator indoors. Always store gasoline outside of the home at a safe distance away from the generator in a well-ventilated area.