



**FIJI METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES
GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF FIJI**

MEDIA RELEASE No.49

2pm, Wednesday 07 March 2018

WEATHER IMPROVES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Tropical Depression 09F intensified to a Category 1 Tropical Cyclone status last night and was named Tropical Cyclone “Hola” (TC Hola) at 12am this morning. It intensified further and upgraded to a Category 2 cyclone at 6am.

“TC Hola” was located about 15.9 degrees latitude south and 167.2 or about 43km south of Pekoia or 237 west-northwest of Port Vila at 3pm this afternoon. It is moving west at about 15km/hr and has an estimated sustained winds of about 95km/hr close to the centre. It does not pose any threat to Fiji Group.

Meanwhile, weather has improved throughout the country and easterly wind flow prevails over the group. Subsequently, all warnings and alerts previously in force for Fiji Group have been cancelled.

Expect cloudy periods with brief showers over eastern parts and interior of larger islands. Other parts of the country can expect fine weather with some showers developing in the afternoon or evening. Isolated heavy rainfall and thunderstorms can also be expected. Good weather conditions to prevail for rest of the week.

Mariners can expect Easterly winds 15 to 20 knots with moderate to rough seas.

Despite severe weather has eased, all communities are advised to remain updated with the latest weather information and remain prepared as the country is still in the cyclone and west season and weather can change rapidly during this time of the year.

For more details and the latest on weather, please contact the National Weather Forecasting Centre on 6736006, 9905376 or visit the Fiji Meteorological Service’s website, www.met.gov.fj and our latest updates can also be followed on the Fiji Meteorological Service official Facebook page.

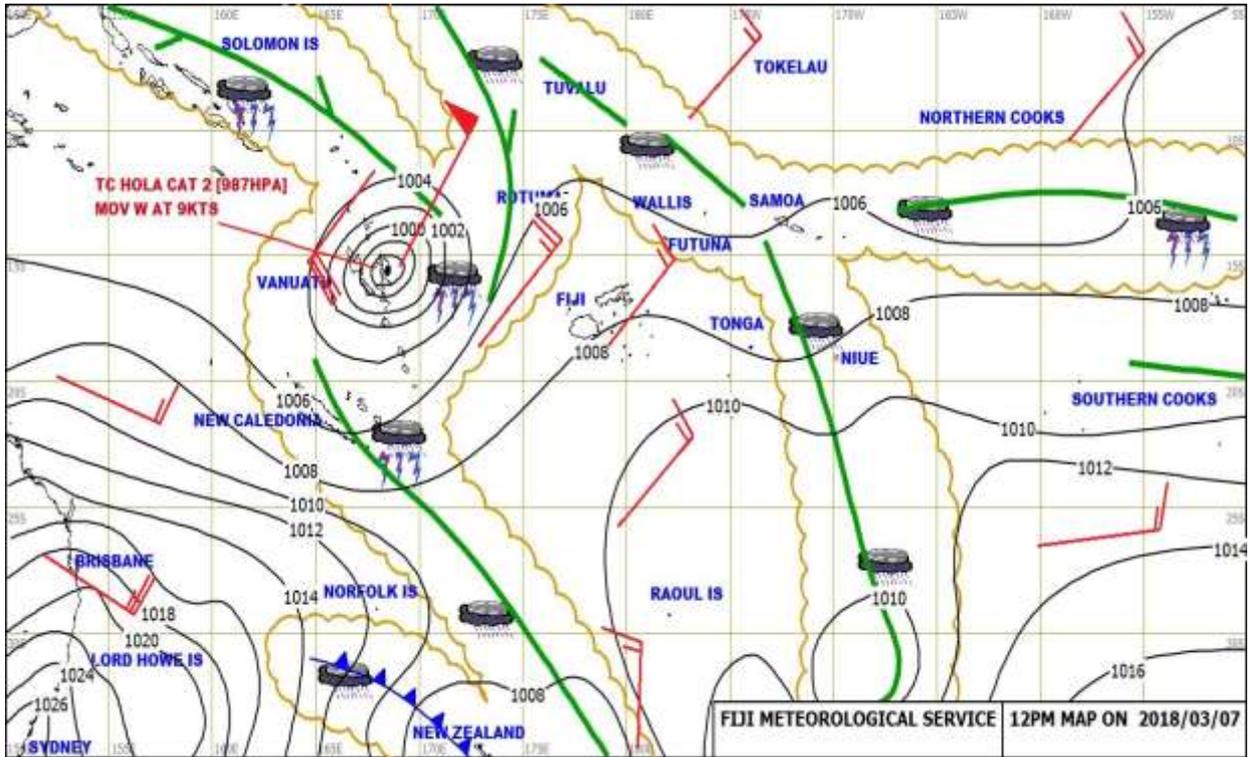


Figure 1: Mean Sea Level Map at 3pm today on 07 March 2018.

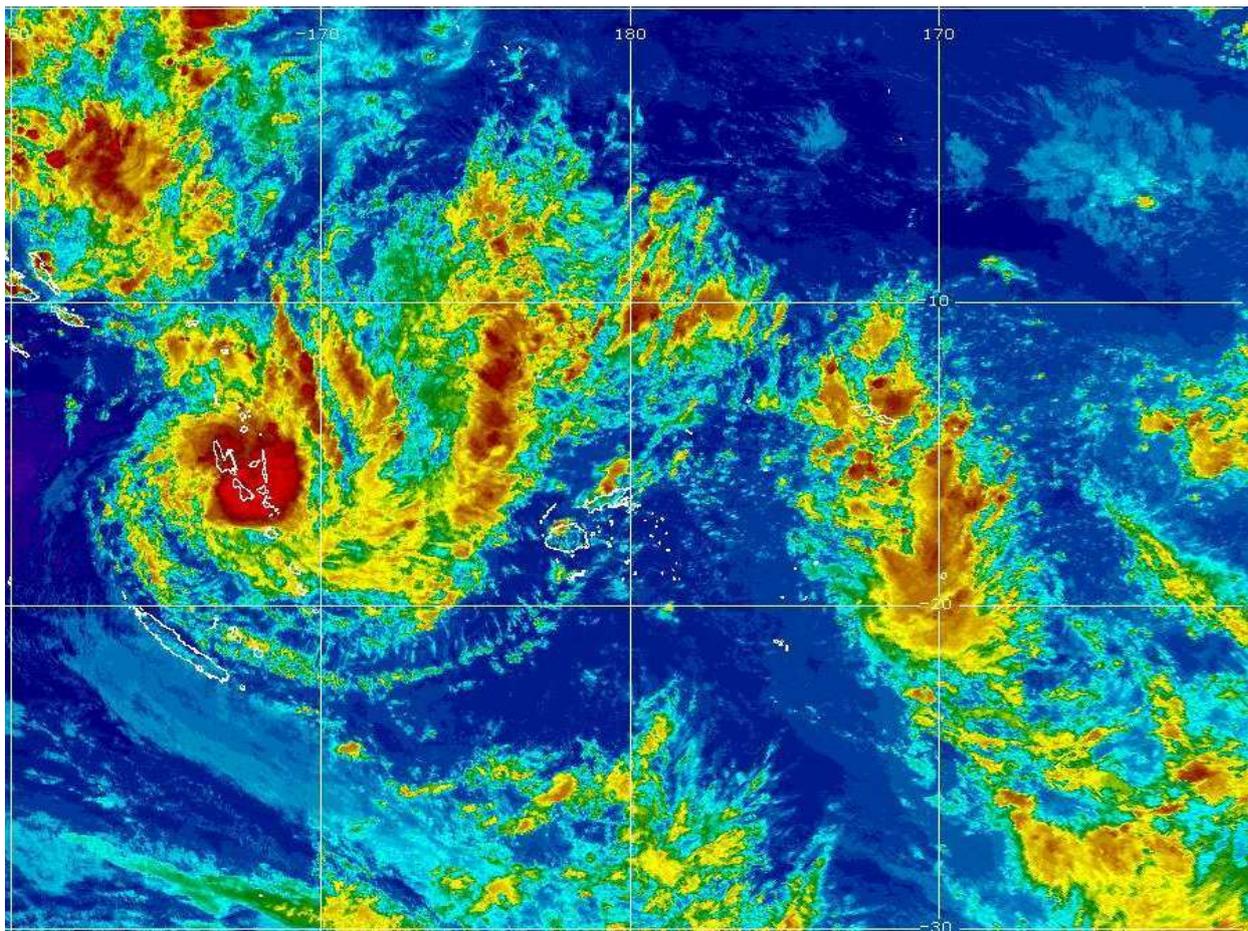


Figure 2: Satellite image at 3.30pm today on 07 March 2018.

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