

15 December 2012 The latest advisory from the Tonga meteorological Services reported at 12:30AM this morning that the Tropical Cyclone Alert previously in force for Niuatoputapu is now being cancelled but remains in force for Niuafu'ou

Yesterday afternoon, the Tonga National Emergency Disaster Management Organizations (NEMO) has activated the first official public awareness alert that severe Tropical Cyclone Evan which has ripped through Apia, Samoa on 13-14 December was now making its way to Tonga, with forecasts that Niuafu'ou and Niuatoputapu will be the most affected by December 15. (Map 2)

Tropical Cyclone Evan was declared a Category 3 on 13 December after spending two days in Samoa has now intensified over the next 12 hours.

The latest Tropical Cyclone Advisory Number 6 is as follows.

TROPICAL CYCLONE ADVISORY NUMBER 7 FOR TONGA ON SEVERE TROPICAL CYCLONE EVAN ISSUED FROM FUAAMOTU TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING CENTER AT 07:00AM 15 DECEMBER 2012.

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TROPICAL CYCLONE ALERT

Tropical Cyclone Evan Alert for Niuatoputapu cancelled but remain in force for Niufo'ou

Saturday, 15 December 2012 06:40 - Last Updated Saturday, 29 December 2012 17:23

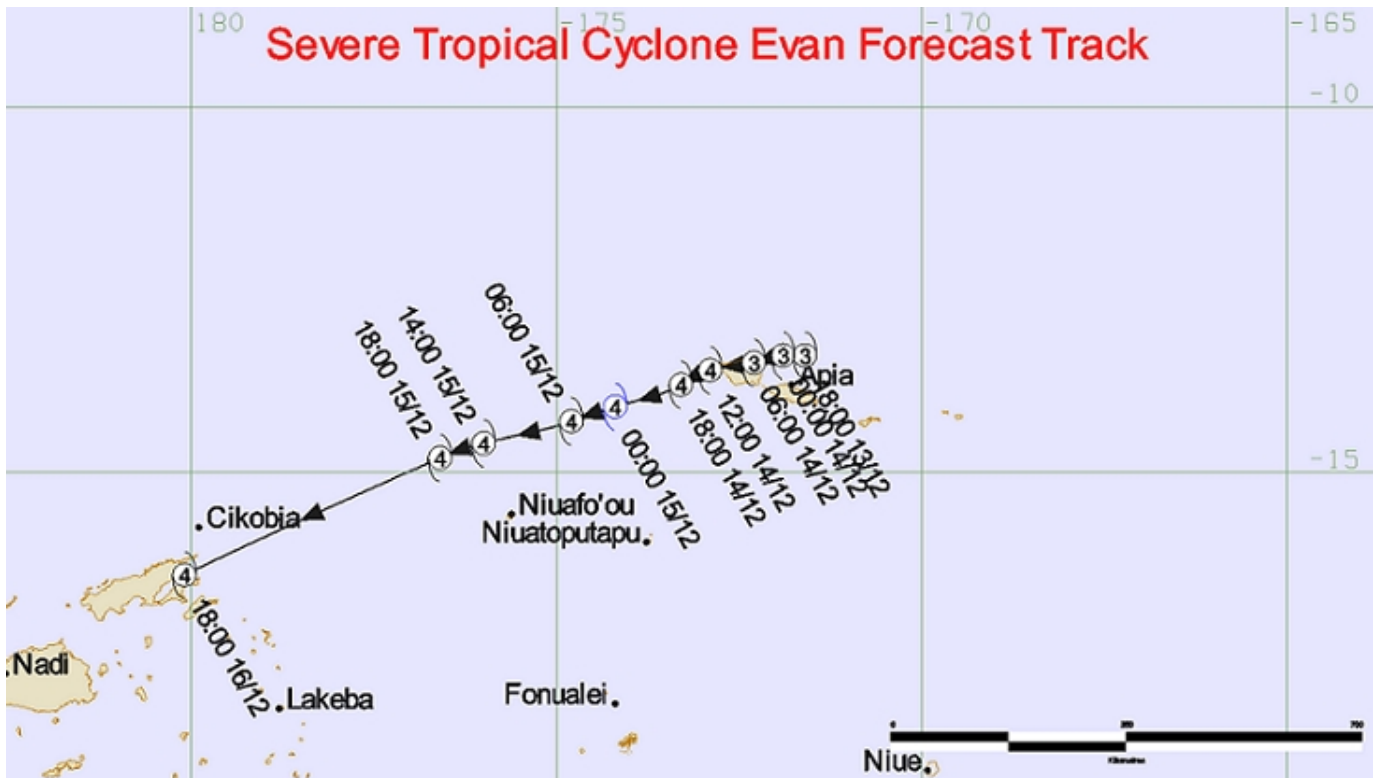
A TROPICAL CYCLONE ALERT REMAINS IN FORCE FOR NIUAFO'OU.

A STRONG WIND WARNING AND HEAVY RAIN ADVISORY REMAIN IN FORCE FOR NIUAFOOU AND NIUATOPUTAPU.

A STRONG WIND WARNING REMAINS IN FORCE FOR THE REST OF THE GROUP.

SEAS FLASH FLOOD ADVISORY DUE TO UNUSUAL HIGH TIDES REMAINS IN FORCE FOR ALL LOW LYING AREAS OF TONGA.

SEVERE TROPICAL CYCLONE EVAN [960HPA]CATEGORY 4 CENTER WAS LOCATED NEAR 12 DECIMAL 3 SOUTH 173 DECIMAL 5 WEST OR ABOUT 405KM NORTH



OF NIUATOPUTAPU AT 0400AM THIS MORNING. TROPICAL CYCLONE EVAN IS MOVING NORTHWEST AT 7KM/HR. AVERAGE WINDS CLOSE TO THE CENTRE IS ESTIMATED TO ABOUT 180 KM/H WITH MOMENTARY GUSTS TO 240 KM/HR.

ON THIS TRACK TC EVAN MAY BRING DAMAGING GALE FORCE WINDS OVER NIUAFOOU WATERS IN THE NEXT 30 TO 42 HOURS.

FOR NIUAFOOU:

EAST TO SOUTHEAST WINDS 40-60 KM/H INCREASING TO 70KM/H WITH MOMENTARY GUST UP TO 100KM/HR IN THE NEXT 30 TO 40 HOURS. OCCASIONAL SHOWERS, BECOMING FREQUENT AND HEAVY AT TIMES WITH SQUALLY

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THUNDERSTORMS FROM TOMORROW. ROUGH SEAS, POSSIBLY BECOMING HIGH IN THE NEXT 30 TO 42 HOURS. HEAVY SWELLS DEVELOPING.

FOR NIUATOPUTAPU:

STRONG SOUTHEAST WINDS 50 TO 60 KM/H. OCCASIONAL SHOWERS, BECOMING FREQUENT AND HEAVY AT TIMES TONIGHT WITH SQUALLY THUNDERSTORMS. ROUGH TO VERY ROUGH SEAS. MODERATE TO HEAVY SWELLS.

FOR THE REST OF TONGA GROUP:

SOUTHEAST WINDS 40-50 KM/H. CLOUDY PERIODS WITH SHOWERS. ROUGH SEAS. MODERATE SOUTHEAST SWELLS.

HIGH TIDE:08:50AM

LOW TIDE: 02:50PM

MEAN SEA LEVEL PRESSURE AT FUA'AMOTU AT 07:00AM WAS 1011.1

THE NEXT TROPICAL CYCLONE ADVISORY FOR TONGA WILL BE ISSUED AT OR AROUND 0100PM IN THE AFTERNOON.

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MT/SV/FH/SVH/TT/SM=
ENDS

Issued by the: Ministry of Information and Communications, Nuku'alofa, 2012. For more informatio please contact the NEMO Office on Tel: