

 <p>Trinidad &amp; Tobago Meteorological Service</p>	<p><b>Trinidad &amp; Tobago Meteorological Service</b>  <b>Synoptic Branch</b>  Facsimile no.: 1-868-669-4727  Telephone nos.: 1-868-669-4392 ext. 120/121  Email: <a href="mailto:synop@metoffice.gov.tt">synop@metoffice.gov.tt</a></p>	<p><b>INFORMATION BULLETIN</b>  Page 1 of 2</p>
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**Date: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2017**

**Issuance Time: 06:00 a.m.**

**HURRICANE MARIA INFORMATION BULLETIN #5**

**DANGEROUS HURRICANE MARIA HEADING TOWARDS THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

At 5:00 a.m. today, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, Hurricane Maria, is a dangerous, major category 4 hurricane and is centered near 16.0N latitude and 62.3W longitude, which is approximately 100 km west southwest (WSW) of Guadeloupe or 325 km southeast (SE) of St. Croix, and is moving in a west-northwesterly direction at approximately 15 km/h.

This general motion is expected through to Wednesday. Maximum sustained winds have increased to 250 km/h with higher gusts. Some fluctuations in intensity is likely during the next day or two but will remain a dangerous hurricane as it approaches the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Hurricane force winds extend outward up to 45km from the centre and tropical storm-force winds extend outward up to 205km and the estimated minimum central pressure is 934mb.

Summary of watches and warnings in effect:

A Hurricane Warning is in effect for...

- \* Guadeloupe
- \* Dominica
- \* St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat
- \* U.S. Virgin Islands
- \* British Virgin Islands
- \* Puerto Rico, Culebra, and Vieques

A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect for...

- \* Antigua and Barbuda
- \* Saba and St. Eustatius
- \* St. Maarten
- \* Anguilla
- \* St. Lucia
- \* Martinique

A Hurricane Watch is in effect for...

- \* Saba and St. Eustatius
- \* St. Maarten
- \* St. Martin and St. Barthelemy
- \* Anguilla
- \* Isla Saona to Puerto Plata

A Tropical Storm Watch is in effect for...

- \* St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- \* West of Puerto Plata to the northern Dominican Republic-Haiti border



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**INFORMATION  
BULLETIN**

**Page 2 of 2**

A Hurricane Warning means that hurricane conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area and is issued 36 hours before the first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds, conditions that make outside preparations difficult or dangerous.

A Hurricane Watch means that hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area. A watch is typically issued 48 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds, conditions that make outside preparations difficult or dangerous.

A Tropical Storm Warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area within 36 hours.

A Tropical Storm Watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within 48 hours.

The progress of this system is being closely monitored and persons with interests in the Lesser Antilles should pay close attention to information being issued by the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service (TTMS), by visiting our website at [www.metoffice.gov.tt](http://www.metoffice.gov.tt), downloading our mobile app (search: TT Met Office) and following us on Facebook and Twitter. The TTMS is reminding citizens that we are in the rainy season and adequate preparations must be made to preserve life and property against adverse weather conditions.

**This system can trigger moderate to heavy rainfall at times on Tuesday (today) across Trinidad and Tobago as this powerful Hurricane traverses through the Leeward Islands.**

**HOWEVER, WE WISH TO UNDERSCORE THAT AT THIS TIME TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IS NOT UNDER ANY TROPICAL CYCLONE THREAT, WATCH OR WARNING.**

The TTMS will continue to monitor this system and will issue another bulletin at 6:00 p.m. today, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, or sooner if the situation warrants.

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**P. Wellington**  
**Meteorologist**  
**Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service.**