

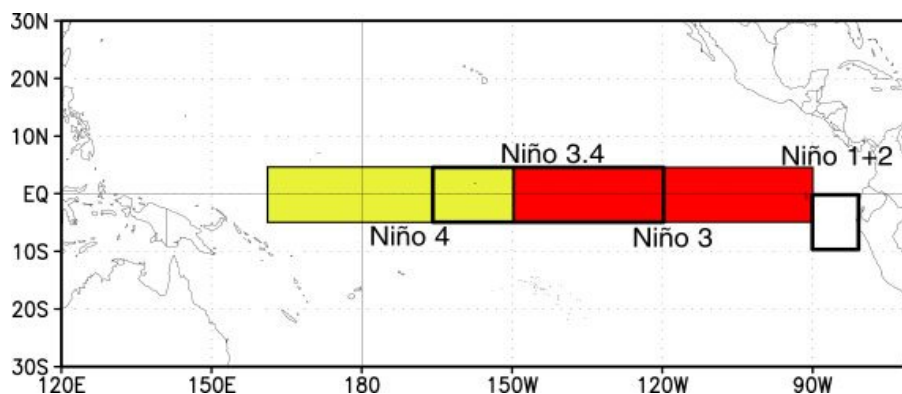
## CURRENT SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE AND OUTLOOK FOR JUNE TO NOVEMBER 2011

La Niña continued to weaken during April 2011 as indicated by increasing surface and sub-surface temperature anomalies across the equatorial Pacific Ocean (refer to **Fig. 1** for locations of Niño regions). The latest weekly Niño indices reflected below-average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) with  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  in Niño 4 and Niño 3.4 regions and near average to above average SSTs in the eastern Pacific at  $-0.2^{\circ}\text{C}$  in Niño 3 and  $+0.4^{\circ}\text{C}$  in Niño 1+2 regions(**Fig. 2(b)**). Consistent with other transitions to ENSO-neutral conditions, the atmospheric circulation anomalies related to La Niña remained considerable over the tropical and subtropical Pacific. Convection was enhanced over much of Malaysia, Indonesia (Kalimantan), and the Philippines. Also, anomalous low-level easterly winds have persisted in this region. Collectively, these oceanic and atmospheric anomalies reflect a weakening La Niña.

Current observed trends together with forecasts from nearly all of the ENSO models predict La Niña to weaken further in the coming months with a return to ENSO-neutral conditions during the May-June period of 2011. According to the majority of models and all multi-model forecasts, this ENSO-neutral condition is expected to continue through the Northern Hemisphere summer of 2011.

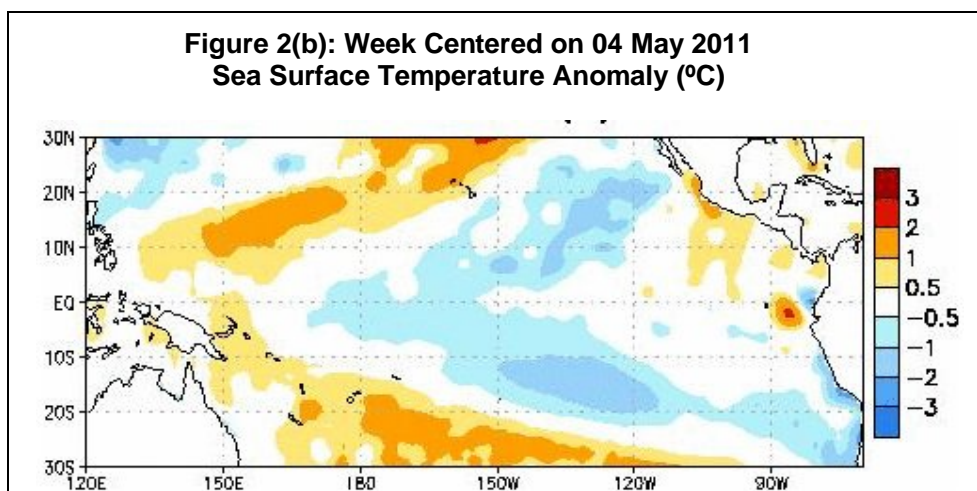
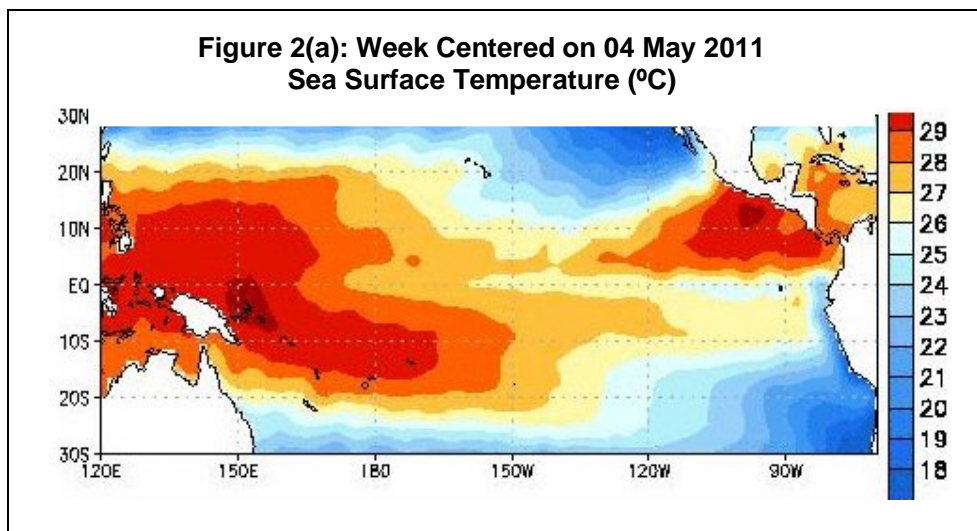
Though diminishing, La Niña is expected to enhance convection over Indonesia during the period of May – July 2011.

**Based on current observations and dynamical model forecasts ENSO-neutral conditions are expected by June 2011.**



**Figure 1: The Niño Regions**

Figures 2(a) and 2(b) show the weekly averaged SST analysis (°C) and their departures (°C) from the climatology for the week centered on 04 May 2011. (Source: Climate Prediction Centre, National Centers for Environmental Prediction, NOAA/ National Weather Service, USA)



**Note:** Malaysian Meteorological Department will be monitoring the development of the ENSO condition closely. An update will be issued if there is any significant development.

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