PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Treng-Shi Huang
Director
Weather Forecast Center
Central Weather Administration
(02)2349-1200, 0912227224

El Niño Developing；3 to 5 Typhoons Expected Near Taiwan in the Second Half of the Year

TAIPEI, TAIWAN –The Central Weather Administration (CWA) reported that Taiwan experienced an overall wetter-than-normal Meiyu (plum rain) season in 2026, with rainfall concentrated mainly in June. Although precipitation was below normal in May, persistent frontal systems, southwesterly flow, and the outer circulation of Typhoon Mekkhala brought significant rainfall to western Taiwan during June. As a result, the Taipei Weather Station recorded its wettest June since observations began in 1897. From January to June of this year, eight typhoons developed in the northwestern Pacific, a figure notably higher than the climatological average of 4.3. According to historical statistical data, approximately 18 to 22 typhoons typically form in the northwestern Pacific between July and December. The CWA projects that the total number of typhoon formations in the second half of this year will range from normal to below normal, with the number of typhoons approaching or impacting Taiwan expected to be between 3 and 5, which falls within the normal range.

Latest monitoring data indicates that sea surface temperatures in the tropical central and eastern Pacific continues to rise. Both marine and atmospheric conditions currently exhibit characteristics of a developing El Niño. It is anticipated that El Niño will continue to develop and potentially persist into the spring of next year. Historical climate statistics indicate that during El Niño development years, tropical cyclones tend to form farther east over the western North Pacific. This allows storms to remain over warm ocean waters for a longer period, increasing the likelihood of further intensification and, consequently, a higher proportion of intense typhoons. Regarding the outlook for the upcoming season, forecast models from the CWA and various international agencies indicates that temperatures in Taiwan from July to September are projected to be normal to above normal, while rainfall is most likely to be within the normal range.

As Taiwan enters the typhoon season, the CWA urges the public to remain alert for typhoon and summer weather hazards, including high temperatures and afternoon thunderstorms. Furthermore, to enhance safety for coastal and nearshore activities, CWA will launch a new "High Wave Alert" service starting this typhoon season (July 1st). During active typhoon warnings, when coastal areas are projected to experience dangerous waves of 6 meters or more, proactive alerts will be broadcasted to the public via the Cell Broadcast Service (CBS). The CWA reminds citizens that upon receiving such alerts, they must avoid visiting coasts, harbors, breakwaters, and rocky reef areas, and refrain from wave-watching or taking photographs. The public is advised to closely monitor the latest marine and meteorological updates to ensure their personal safety.