



# CLIMATE ALERT BULLETIN (BAC)

**CPPS**

**SUMMARIZED VERSION**

**FEBRUARY 2008**

**BAC 209**

February was characterized to present increase of the Sea Surface Temperature next to the coast of South America; reason why it would be possible to be considered that in this month the cold event "La Niña" would have fortified its process of weakening of waters of the Southeastern Pacific, reaching towards month ends positive anomalies of to 1, 5°C. Nevertheless in the region of the Central Pacific Ocean the negative anomalies of the temperature of the sea have stayed in 2, 0°C approximately.

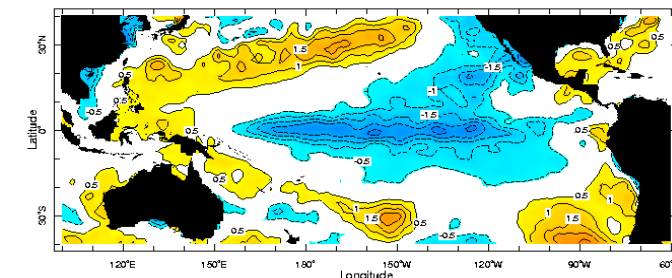
During the last week of February the temperature of the sea presented anomalies of -1, 7°C in the Western Pacific, -1, 6°C for the Central Pacific and 1, 1°C in the Eastern Pacific, showing a clear tendency to reduce the negative anomalies observed the previous month and that during the second fortnight of February becomes general to all the strip of the equatorial Pacific; being more remarkable this reduction in the region of the Southeastern Pacific.

As far as surface winds, in the region of the Southeastern Pacific variables with predominance of the south and southeastern appeared, with wind occurrences of the north for some of the stations of Ecuador and Peru; and speeds slightly superior to the normal rank for the time.

The Index of Oscillation of the South, by seventh consecutive month reached a positive value of 2, 7 being the higher since the phenomenon of "La Niña" began, in august of 2007.

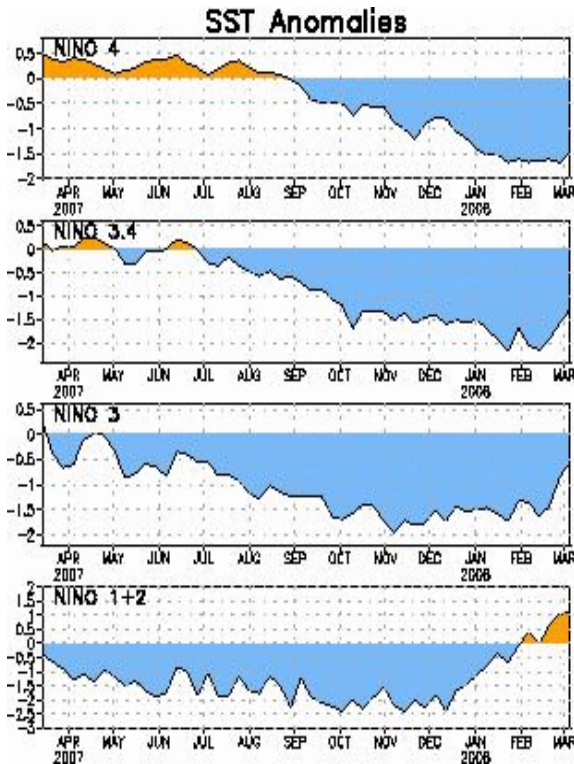
During February the Mean Sea Level (MSL) in the Southeastern Pacific fluctuated thus near its normal patterns, as opposed to the coasts of Ecuador was 1, 0 cm on the average; throughout the Peruvian coast it continued presenting negative anomalies, with the exception of Talara and Paita, that they presented slight positive anomalies; in front of Chile the level of the sea was characterized to maintain anomalies negative that they fluctuated between -4, 3 cm (Arica) to -8, 5 cm (Antofagasta) and -6, 7 cm in Valparaiso. Taking into account the present thermal behaviour from the Equatorial Pacific Ocean, as well as the exits of several models of numerical simulation, are anticipated that during the next month in the Eastern sector of the Pacific and west coast of South America the Sea Surface Temperature will remain on the normal one; whereas in the Central Pacific the negative anomalies stay, conserving the tendency to reduce the negative anomalies during the following months.

**Anomalia de la Temperatura Superficial del Mar (°C)  
Febrero de 2008**



Feb 2008

**SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE  
ANOMALIES, FEBRUARY 2008**



**SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES  
FOR THE NIÑO REGIONS**

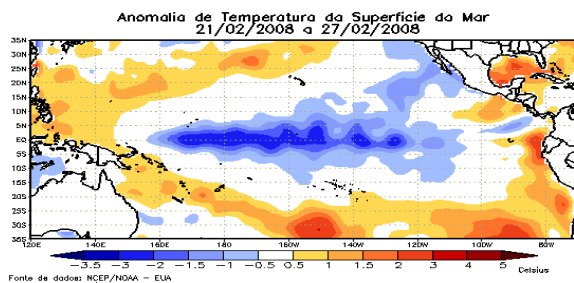


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At subsuperficial level, the behaviour of the thermal structure during February in the Eastern Equatorial Pacific maintained the presence of negative anomalies whose nucleus presents values of  $-3, 0^{\circ}\text{C}$  that is located around the level of the 60 m. of depth between  $90^{\circ}\text{W}$  and  $160^{\circ}\text{W}$ .

The Index of Oscillation of the South, by seventh consecutive month presented a positive value being in this occasion the one of greater magnitude with 2, 7.

The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) in the Eastern sector of the Pacific appeared around  $2^{\circ}\text{N}$ , and in the last days of the month the ITCZ was branched off, with the second branch located in  $3^{\circ}\text{S}$ .



SUBSUPERFICIAL TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES  
FEBRUARY 2008

### Perspective for the next weeks

#### GLOBAL

Taking into account the present predictions from several dynamic and statistical models as well as the behaviour of the main oceanic and atmospheric indicators, it is considered that during the next month the Central Equatorial Pacific will continue exhibiting negative anomalies of the SST with a gradual tendency to the reduction of the negative anomalies.

#### REGIONAL

In agreement with the pursuit of the ocean-atmospheric conditions in the Southeastern Pacific Ocean, executed by Program ERFEN (integrated by National Committees ERFEN of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) and coordinated by the CPPS, it is anticipated that during the next month warm values of the SST in the eastern and coastal Equatorial Pacific appear, like the temperature of the air that will present values around its normal one, particularly from the north coasts from Chile to the south of Ecuador.

As far as the MSL, this one would also stay fluctuating around its average value; with respect to rains the tendency for the coast of Ecuador and north of Peru is to continue presenting a surplus; whereas for the rest of the region the tendency of precipitations is to stay below the normal thing, in special the centre and south coast of Chile.

Institutions that collaborate in this bulletin:



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