## ENSO QUICK LOOK August 16, 2007 A monthly summary of the status of El Niño,

 La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or "ENSO"As of mid-August the gradual cooling trend suggestive of La Niña development continues. Current equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are below average in most of the eastern tropical Pacific, particularly in the eastern one-third of the basin. Based on the latest observations and forecasts, there is a 60 percent probability of developing La Niña conditions over the coming season.

Current ENSO Forecast Summary

| Forecast Period: | Dec. 2007 - Feb. 2008 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 50 | 100 |
| Probability of El Niño |  | medium | high |
|  | 0 | 50 | 100 |
| Probability of La Niña |  | medium | high |
| Probable Magnitude of Event |  | weak |  |




Historical Sea Surface Temperature Index ${ }^{2}$


## Historically Speaking

El Niño and La Niña events tend to develop during the period Apr-Jun and they:

- Tend to reach their maximum strength during Dec-Feb
- Typically persist for 9-12 months, though occasionally persisting for up to 2 years
- Typically recur every 2 to 7 years

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Probability of an El Niño refers to the likelihood of a sustained (that is, over several seasons) warming across a broad region of the eastern and central tropical Pacific, not just along coastal South America.

    ²Based on sea surface temperature departures from the long-term average over the "NINO3.4" region (120-170W, 5S-5N).

