Western Cuba on alert as tropical storm Michael strengthens



Havana, October 8 (RHC)-- Tropical Storm Michael is gaining in strength and organization in the Caribbean Sea and is expected to swell into a Category 1 hurricane, as it moves through the Yucatan Channel, reported the Cuban Institute of Meteorology at 6 a.m. Monday.

Cuban Civil Defense has issued warnings urging citizens to increase vigilance as the Cuban provinces of Pinar del Rio and the Isle of Youth are threatened with intense rain, flash-floods and mudslides.

Showers and intermitent rains are affecting the island's western and central provinces.

Meanwhile, in an advisory, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said Michael is on track to hit the Florida Panhandle midweek as a Category 2 hurricane.



Radio Habana Cuba