**Re:     Emoji Subcommittee Report 2019Q1 UTC**

**From: Jeremy Burge / Emoji Subcommittee**

**Date:   2019-01-10**
**Updated: 2019-01-16**

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The Emoji Subcommittee (ESC) has finalized recommendations for Emoji 12.0 (2019), and work remains ongoing on plans for Emoji 13.0 (2020).

As with all emoji releases, the ESC is striving to increase the diversity of the emoji options available, while ensuring emoji additions are clear and consistent for vendors to implement.

Specific recommendations requiring action from UTC are linked in separate documents below, and this report provides an overview of current emoji plans.

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# 1. Emoji 12.0 (2019)

The Emoji Subcommittee is recommending minor changes to RGI sequences for Emoji 12.0, specifically regarding new skin tone support, detailed in the document below.

- **[L2/18-340 Proposed change to Emoji 12 data for skin tones and sequences](#)**

This is the only set of changes recommended by the ESC for Emoji 12.0 (2019). All other changes or additions in this report relate to future releases (Emoji 13.0+ / 2020+).

# 2. Emoji 13.0 (2020)

The Emoji Subcommittee (ESC) recommends a number of new provisional candidates for Emoji 13.0, as outlined in:

- **[L2/19-018 ESC Candidate Recommendations for 2019Q1 UTC](#)**
    - Included in this document:
        - Recommendations for Provisional Candidates for Emoji 13.0
        - Proposals which the ESC has not yet formed a view

All Emoji 13.0 additions are provisional at this time, with draft recommendations to be made at a future date.

# 3. Additional documents

The ESC has the recommendations on emoji-related documents:

A. [L2/18-337](#) Broaden the scope of what Unicode calls "properties" (Bynens)
   a. Most impact on regex, emoji.
   b. Suggest the UTC also include other properties of strings, such as named sequences, where reasonable.
   c. **Action: Recommend UTC adopt changes at least in UTS #18 (regular expressions) and in UTS #51 (emoji)**

B. [ESC comments on 2019Q1 feedback from PRIs 387, 380, 392](#) (ESC)
   a. **Feedback from the ESC is provided for these PRIs in above-linked document**

C. [154-A8 Action Item for Jeremy Burge, Emoji Subcommittee: Prepare a background document for a PRI on which emoji most need two directions](#) (Burge)
   a. **On hold while ESC devises strategy for future priorities**

D. [L2/19-022](#) Gendered Emoji Update II (Buff)
   a. The Emoji Subcommittee will take this under consideration when determining future plans for gender-related sequences.
   b. **No action**

# 3. Vendor FYI

For subdivision flags, the policy is to bring these to the attention of vendors, to see if there is sufficient support for addition to RGI. No recommendation is made by the ESC for or against any subdivision flag proposal.

The Emoji Subcommittee wishes to advise vendors of the following proposals received:

1. Tibetan Flag

Proposals for subdivision flags are available to vendors via the Emoji Subcommittee. Other Unicode members may contact the ESC for more information if required.

For policies regarding other (non-subdivision) flags, see "Proposals for flags" [unicode.org/emoji/proposals.html#Flags](#).

# 5. Future Goals (2020+)

As work continues on Emoji 13.0, one ongoing goal is to increase the diversity of the RGI emoji sequences in a consistent and steady manner. This may involve new RGI sequences for skin tone support within multi-person groupings, and/or sequences for additional gender neutral / gender inclusive emoji options.

It's possible that some RGI sequences for skin tone removed as part of Emoji 12.0 may be recommended as part of more detailed plans for Emoji 13.0 or above.

Broad areas to be assessed by the Emoji Subcommittee in the future include:

- Additional skin tone support within multi person groupings
- Additional gender neutral / gender inclusive sequences

- Sequences for emoji color, type or style
- Sequences for emoji direction

This is not an exhaustive list of possibilities, but does capture a number of areas worth considering for priority, and how any new sequences required might fit into the *emoji budget* for specific releases.

Moving forward, the ESC is also considering taking a more proactive role in generating provisional candidates to best address gaps within the emoji set.