## Title: Unicode Liaison Report to ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2

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## Publication of Unicode 13.0

Unicode Version 13.0 was released on March 10, 2020, adding 5,390 new characters. This version is synchronized in character repertoire with the 6th edition of ISO/IEC 10646, which passed DIS balloting in May 2020. For more information, see http://blog.unicode.org/2020/03/announcing-unicode-standard-version-130.html.

## Unicode Emoji (UTS #51)

Version 13.0 of Unicode Emoji was released January 29, 2020. This version added 62 new emoji, represented using characters added in Unicode 13.0 or using character sequences. For more information, see http://blog.unicode.org/2020/01/unicode-emoji-130-now-final-for-2020.html.

Unicode Emoji 13.1 will be released very soon. This will include 217 new emoji that are represented as ZWJ sequences. (No new emoji characters will be added until Unicode 14.0.) For a summary of these new emoji, see https://www.unicode.org/L2/L2020/20133-emoji-recs-13-1.pdf.

Unicode Emoji 14.0 is in preparation, and not yet final. For an early preview of proposed emoji additions under consideration, see https://unicode.org/emoji/future/emoji-provisional.html.

## Preparation of Unicode version 14.0

Work on Unicode 14.0 is in progress. For the past several years, Unicode has had an annual publication cycle, with a new version released each year in March. Based on that cycle, Unicode 14.0 was originally planned for release in March 2021. Due to the societal effects of COVID-19, however, the release of Unicode 14.0 has been postponed to September 2021.

In the past, Unicode has relied on the SC2 CD/PDAM ballots for early, broad review of proposed character and script additions, followed by a subsequent "beta" release. For Unicode 14.0, in lieu of a new CD or PDAM ballot, Unicode will be publishing "alpha" code charts to get early, broad review of proposed character and script additions. This alpha period will begin in late 2020 or early 2021, and will be open to public review and comments. Unicode will notify SC2 when these alpha code charts are available.

Based on feedback from the Alpha release, the Unicode Technical Committee will finalize the repertoire for Unicode 14.0 at its January meeting. Following that, content for a Beta release will be prepared, including code charts and complete data files. The Beta period will be June and July, 2021, and will be open to public review and comments.