

Re: Emoji Subcommittee Report for UTC #176 (2023Q3)
From: Jennifer Daniel on the behalf of the Emoji Subcommittee (ESC)
Date: 2023-07-18

1. [PRI #480](#) (*Unicode 15.1.0 Beta*) Feedback

- a. [ID20230523142756](#): With the recent addition of region code “CQ” (Sark) into [ISO 3166-1 alpha 2](#), and the subsequent addition of the region code in [CLDR Version 43](#), it is now possible to add as RGI this flag sequence to the *emoji-sequences.txt* data file. The ESC recommends that this addition be targeted for Unicode Version 16.0.

Action Item for Ned Holbrook, ESC Add 1F1E8 1F1F6 as a new RGI_Emoji_Flag_Sequence in the *emoji-sequences.txt* data file, based on PRI #480 feedback [ID20230523142756](#), for Unicode Version 16.0.

Action Item for Rick McGowan, ESC: Respond to the submitter of ReportID [ID20230523142756](#).

- b. [ID20230524133634](#): The ESC agrees that the right-facing variants of *person walking*, *person running*, and *person kneeling*, along with their skin tone variants, should be moved from the “Other” category to the “Role” category in the *emoji-zwj-sequences.txt* data file. This change is already reflected in the 2023-06-05 draft of the *emoji-zwj-sequences.txt* data file.

Action Item for Rick McGowan, ESC: Respond to the submitter of ReportID [ID20230524133634](#).

2. [PRI #471](#) (*Proposed Update UTS #51*) Feedback

[ID20230422094554](#): The ESC agrees that U+1FAC3 *pregnant man* should be added to the “Male” column of the “Emoji With Explicit Gender Appearance” table in Section 2.3, in the same row as U+1F930 *pregnant woman*. This change is already reflected in the 2023-05-18 draft of the Proposed Update of UTS #51.

Action Item for Rick McGowan, ESC: Respond to the submitter of ReportID [ID20230422094554](#).

3. Unicode Version 15.1

There are two changes to note:

1. A minor data file issue in Section 1.b that has already been resolved.
2. The sequence for broken chain was originally specified as “🔗🔥” rather than “🔗🔥”. As a result the encoding is more complex, having two sequences. We would like to discuss modifying this sequence to simplify implementations:

26D3 FE0F 200D 1F4A5 ; fully-qualified #🔗🔥 E15.1 broken chain

26D3 200D 1F4A5 ; unqualified #🔗🔥 E15.1 broken chain

to : 1F517 200D 1F4A5 ; fully-qualified #🔗🔥 E15.1 broken chain

Proposed Action Item for Ned Holbrook, ESC Replace the two ZWJ sequences, 26D3 FE0F 200D 1F4A5 and 26D3 200D 1F4A5 with 1F517 200D 1F4A5 in the emoji-zwj-sequences.txt data file, based on Section 3.2 of document L2/23-162, for Unicode Version 15.1.

4. Emoji Chart Images

We would like to simplify the development and deployment of the full emoji charts starting from Version 15.1 [\[link, link\]](#), specifically to present fewer vendor images. Maintaining the full set of current vendor images has been proven to be unsustainable. The charts will instead focus on primary example designs and the original Japanese carrier images. We will investigate offering a broader set of images to interested members and researchers.

5. Update on Intake Process

Since overhauling the emoji review process in 2020, the ESC has continued to explore how to improve the quality of proposals we receive. Over the past quarter the ESC has set out to accomplish this in two ways:

1. Tightening up the review process
 - There are a number of ways in which a single author submits similar, near-identical, or multiple emoji proposals. At best, this is presumably done thinking that it could increase their likelihood of acceptance. At worst, the proposals are not well-formed and riddled with repurposed text. **As a result, the ESC is exploring limiting the number of proposals an author can submit during each submission period.** Next step: *Determine the appropriate cap on submissions per submission period.*

- Given that the sheer quantity of submissions has only increased over time and once emoji are added to the Unicode Standard they are never removed, **we are looking into extending the timeframe for re-review of declined proposals. This will reduce the burden placed on our volunteers and ensure we have sufficient time to review proposals that have not recently been declined.** Next step: *Determine the appropriate duration for re-review.*
- 2. Specific text improvements to the public-facing “Guidelines for Submitting Unicode® Emoji Proposals” page, FAQ to better set expectations around the emoji submission process.
 - Surfacing relevant content and clarifying language
 - State at the top of the submission page that [flag submissions are closed](#)
 - Highlight [successful proposals](#) looks like.
 - Fixing Bugs
 - Minor tweaks to the page, such as revisiting all hyperlinks to ensure they are both useful and current.

If the above recommendations are approved by the UTC, the working group will move forward with executing on them prior to the UTC #177 meeting.