

Emoji Subcommittee report, May 2016

To: UTC
From: Peter Edberg, Mark Davis, Emoji Subcommittee
Date: 2016-05-09

Emoji Subcommittee actions/decisions/positions (if available) on emoji-related issues coming before the UTC; includes draft disposition of feedback on PRI 319 and 321 (in sections C, D).

A. Architecture and process issues

[L2/16-087](#) Provisional value for Emoji property (Emoji Subcommittee)

[L2/16-088](#) Characters Proposed for Emoji=Provisional (Emoji Subcommittee)

- ESC supports this proposal.

[L2/16-128](#) Additional Emoji Selection Factor (Constable, Edberg, Davis)

- This was discussed briefly in ESC, however the ESC was not asked to take a position.

[L2/16-093](#) Broadening ZWJ segmentation support (Mark Davis, Emoji Subcommittee)

[L2/16-094](#) Broadening ZWJ segmentation support, spreadsheet (Mark Davis, ESC)

- ESC provided feedback on this and supports it.

[L2/16-060](#) Flag Tofus (Pournader)

- ESC is OK with adding this to UTR 51 as a possible option for display, but did not agree to recommend this as the default.

[L2/16-105](#) Coded Hashes of Arbitrary Images (Loomis et al)

- The ESC does not endorse this proposal.

B. New emoji proposals

[L2/16-124](#) Proposal to encode ORANGE HEART emoji character (Hunt)

- ESC supports this proposal.

[L2/16-127](#) Proposal for more winter activity emojis (Komatsu)

- ESC supports this proposal.

[L2/16-071](#) Proposal to Add Three-Fingered Salute to the Emoji Characters (Al Balooshi)

- Add to a proposal in development for additional hand gestures (Edberg).

[L2/16-072](#) Jurassic Emoji Proposal (Milan)

[L2/16-103](#) Feedback on Jurassic Emoji Proposal (West)

- Consider for a proposal in development on additional animal emoji (Cummings).

[L2/16-022](#) Condom Emoji Submission v2 (Havas/Greene)

[L2/16-126](#) Proposal to Include Menstruation Characters - Femojis (SCA)

- ESC determined the latter was well-formed, too late for further review. Further action on both may depend on any decisions related to [L2/16-128](#) above.

C. [PRI 321 feedback](#) & disposition

Broukhis: bidi-independent tags

- Absolute direction is a lower priority; can use direction marks around emoji.

Sacks: female versions of sports figures, complaints about what & how female roles are shown.

- Covered by gender tags in the proposal, and a separate discussion about support for more professions/roles.
- The specific way that certain characters are drawn, or how they are presented in a user interface, are not Unicode issues.

Saff: neutral gender for existing binary pairs; allow gender tags on PREGNANT WOMAN (e.g. for trans man who can have children); have both male & female versions of some clothing items (e.g. male swimsuit as well as BIKINI; use gender tags?).

- Reasonable to have non-gendered versions of people; not sure of mechanism.
 - New characters, e.g. ADULT CHILD
 - Neutral gender tag on MAN or WOMAN - which? This could have misleading fallback.
- Consider PREGNANT WOMAN for Emoji_Gender_Base.
- Instead of of clothing + gender tag, prefer more clothing emoji as separate characters. TAGs would have odd fallback.

Main: objects to use of tag characters.

- UTC is deliberately repurposing the formerly-deprecated TAGs, so no new set is needed.
- Have already taken care of segmentation properties for TAGs.

Allison: supports gender tags for sports; redesign male version of RUNNER glyph to be in running clothes.

- Add to glyph feedback (we have a new list in progress).

Gus Fonts 1: bad fallback using gender tag.

- Consider removing the characters with explicit gender in the names from Emoji_Gender_Base, and encoding a separate character instead.
- More discussion of fallback strategy for gender tags.

Gus Fonts 2: difficult to represent gender in some emojis.

- Consider removing from Emoji_Gender_Base characters for which a gender appearance is difficult to indicate at emoji scale, such as SWIMMER, WEIGHTLIFTER.

- Need explicit/comprehensive list: Gus to do.

Gus Fonts 3: limits on subregion flags.

- Consider an explicit list of what subregion flags are recommended for support; people should provide feedback on particular flags of interest.
- May be moot... looks like no implementors are really pushing for flags right now. However flags are very popular, especially around big events like sports competition. However there are also political issues around having flags emoji. Please see <http://hashfla.gs/> for custom emoji (aka hashflags) on Twitter including US flag usage currently. E.g. [#USElections2016](#) [#CaptainAmericaCivilWar](#) [#HouseOfCards](#))

Roberto: tag preference is (1) Flags (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland); (2) Direction; (3) Gender; (4) Hair color.

- Noted

Giromini: tag preference is (1) Direction; (2) Gender; (3) Hair color; (4) Subregion flags (concern about unlimited growth potential

- Noted

Zelpa: tag preference is (1) Direction; (2) Gender; (3) Flags; (4) Hair color

- Noted

CRUKs Race for Life: tag preference is (1) Gender

Edberg 1: Gender_Base list

- Add items in #1, don't add items in #2, remove items in #3 except GUARDSMAN

Edberg 2: glyph for unsupported sequences

- For ad hoc discussion

Snelting et al:

- Too late for ESC response

D. [PRI 319 feedback](#) & disposition

Pournader: unnecessary spaces at the end of some lines in 3.0 [emoji-data.txt](#).

- Noted, editors will handle

Phillips: Use of script subtags to specify emoji presentation is a bad idea.

- Make more clear that script subtags are registered and public, not private?
- Has concern that they will interfere with existing matching/selection mechanism; draft does mention that.
- Thinks it is difficult for rendering systems to parse this out. Address?
- Perhaps have a stronger recommendation for the other approaches? Yes, we want to more strongly discourage the script-based mechanism. Peter & Mark to update doc.

Other feedback too late for ESC review.