
KATHY SCHNITT: Welcome to the SSAC Evolution of the DNS Resolution Work Party ion Work Party Teleconference on Thursday the 1st of September 2022. Barry, back over to you.

BARRY LEIBA: It is September Fool's day, I guess. Right? September 1st? I don't know. Something like that. And Warren and Rod, you joined just as we were starting. Welcome.

ROD RASMUSSEN: Thank you. Good to actually be able to get on one of these.

BARRY LEIBA: Yes. Good to have you. So last week we had a scintillating, fabulous, wonderful conversation about terminology. And I think we need to continue that. We also had ... Warren sketched together and then other people started bashing a Venn diagram. I don't know whether we want to go back to the Venn diagram or just use the tabular one that Andrew has in this document. Or whether we just want to talk about things more abstractly. But I'll kind of let you guys figure out how you want to angle that.

Does anybody remember what we talked about last week and want to continue something we were in the middle of? Let's start with that. Is there some terminology issue, definitions issue that we need to start this conversation with today?

Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

I see nobody unmuting. So Andrew, do you have a place you want to start in the definitions here that you think would be fruitful?

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Well, I think we got hung up on “domain namespace.”

BARRY LEIBA: Yes.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: So it might be good to talk about that. Also, talking about maybe DNS naming system or what a DNS name is. Let's start with “domain namespace,” I think.

BARRY LEIBA: Okay. So we have a definition of that that's written down right now that's highlighted in yellow. At least it looks yellow to me. Are there any comments on that definition or relating it to what we talked about last week?

I think everybody put on the Zoom update that doesn't let you unmute.

ROD RASMUSSEN: No.

BARRY LEIBA: Rod just tested that and that was not the case. Jacques, do you have something to say or were you just testing my theory as well?

JACQUES LATOUR: Oh, I was just about to say that I'm starting to be traumatized with this process.

BARRY LEIBA: I can't say that I blame you on that. So maybe we need to ... Well, that gives us a goal. Let's get this terminology bit nailed down and not spend our time on definitions beyond the beginning of today's meeting. I see [inaudible].

ROD RASMUSSEN: Barry, let me ask a question, then, as somebody who has unfortunately not been able to pay any attention but is very interested in this and is here today. Are there any particular definitions that the group had struggled with last week or that you or anybody else was uncomfortable with that we should review since there's maybe a few people here that weren't there on the call that may can provide fresh eyes?

BARRY LEIBA: Well, that's where Andrew came in when I asked him where he thought we should start. He picked out a couple that we had gotten hung up on last week.

ROD RASMUSSEN: All right.

BARRY LEIBA: Nobody seems to want to talk about [them].

RUSS HOUSLEY: So I think, Rod, to highlight the points, the domain name space is anything that might be a domain that is registerable. Okay?

ROD RASMUSSEN: Yep.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Even though it may not be registered. Then, the resolution protocol used with that is the DNS protocol. Okay?

ROD RASMUSSEN: Yes.

RUSS HOUSLEY: So then we're trying to nail down what an alternative naming system is, and it's one that either does not use that namespace—uses a different namespace—or uses a different resolution protocol even though the names are in the same space.

ROD RASMUSSEN: Got it.

RUSS HOUSLEY: That's what we're having a really hard time saying because "nots" are a hard thing. Because it's a "not" of X and Y. So then we keep trying De Morgan's not X or not Y, and so on. We've tried all of the permutations.

ROD RASMUSSEN: I'm looking through these definitions here. Do we have one to capture the concept of what we would call, I guess, the traditional DNS space of actual things that are in active DNS?

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yeah. That's where the DNS protocol is used. And the IANA root.

ROD RASMUSSEN: Right.

RUSS HOUSLEY: That's the DNS naming system. [inaudible].

ROD RASMUSSEN: Okay. That's what that's supposed to be.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yeah.

ROD RASMUSSEN: Because when I saw “DNS naming system” I thought of not just the entries but also the support around it. The system that supports it.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yes. And that's where we ended last week. “Oh, don't the policies of how you get added to the IANA root matter? And in an alternate system, are there similar policies that are just not the ICANN ones?”

ROD RASMUSSEN: Right.

RUSS HOUSLEY: And that was the open question when our heroes last were here.

ROD RASMUSSEN: Okay.

BARRY LEIBA: And Warren has his hand up, so [inaudible] the answer to everything.

WARREN KUMARI: God, no. But I still think that the best way to do the alternative naming system is to make sure that our DNS naming system definition is perfectly defined and polished, etc. And then the alternative naming system is a naming system that is not the DNS one. Because I still think

the “thing that is not both this and that” definition, while we've worked another bunch, I still think it's still more confusing than doing, “This is the DNS one. An alternative is anything that's not that.”

BARRY LEIBA: Okay. Is the definition of “domain namespace” that's out there, that's on the screen right now, a good place to start that conversation? Warren.

WARREN KUMARI: I don't think so because ... I'm not saying “alternative naming system” is something that's different to “domain namespace.” I'm saying “alternative naming system” is different to “DNS.”

BARRY LEIBA: DNS. Right. So drop down a couple, then. There is a “DNS naming system.”

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. I don't think that “DNS naming system” is quite right either because I think that if I stand up my own personal root system and it's disconnected from the Internet and I only use it within my house, I think that's still a DNS naming system. But it's not the one that we're talking about. So I think we need to refine “DNS naming system” a bit. Maybe like the “canonical DNS system” or something because—

RUSS HOUSLEY: How about “public Internet DNS naming system”?

WARREN KUMARI: Yep. That would do it.

JACQUES LATOUR: There's the IANA. We need to be specific. So it's “IANA namespace” or whatever. So it's “IANA DNS,” “IANA namespace.” It's the DNS rooted in IANA. That's one space. That's a space we know. And anything else that's not DNS or in IANA, it's alternate.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. The question is how best to refer to that. I agree that it is the one that is in the IANA zone.

JACQUES LATOUR: [Public] IANA.

WARREN KUMARI: It's not really IANA who owns—and “owns” is in quotes—that zone. It's that ICANN sets the policy and tells IANA to stick it in. So I think the word “ICANN” or something needs to be ... “ICANN-managed” or something.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: I added the word “public.” “Public Internet DNS naming system.” Just to kind of differentiate from private. Would that—

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah.

JACQUES LATOUR: “DNS in IANA.” And anything else is alternate. And there’s various flavor of alternate namespace.

WARREN KUMARI: So do we need to say, “The system of names server resolution that uses the DNS name resolution protocol, the DNS syntax” and blah blah blah? Isn't the fact that something is using the DNS name resolution protocol ... Doesn't that imply DNS syntax? Like, you can't use a different syntax with the DNS name resolution protocol.

JACQUES LATOUR: Or “uses the DNS and is rooted in IANA.”

WARREN KUMARI: Yes, yes. I'm agreeing with that. But do we also say “the DNS syntax”?

JACQUES LATOUR: [inaudible].

WARREN KUMARI: And do we say “the DNS syntax”? Isn't that implied by the bit just before that?

JACQUES LATOUR: And if you just say “rooted in IANA” it implies [out] the policies [inaudible].

SUZANNE WOOLF: Has anybody looked in detail at ... I have a feeling that some of the stuff at least, there are existing definitions in RFC 8499, DNS terminology. I know we've talked about that before. I don't remember if anybody was ever tasked to go make a specific comparison. But this feels like we might be reinventing some of this terminology, and that's part of the challenge.

WARREN KUMARI: [inaudible].

SUZANNE WOOLF: I'm sorry?

WARREN KUMARI: I did have a look and was not able to find a particularly good definition that we could copy over. So 8499 has useful definitions of certain things like “domain name” and, I think “label” and stuff. I think it called it the “public—”

SUZANNE WOOLF: The global DNS is in there.

WARREN KUMARI: Global [DNS]. Yep, that's the word.

SUZANNE WOOLF: The other thing I was—

WARREN KUMARI: So maybe—

SUZANNE WOOLF: Sorry. Go ahead.

WARREN KUMARI: Maybe “global DNS” is better than whatever we have, “public Internet DNS etc.” Maybe just “global DNS is ...” Although the global DNS definition doesn't really talk about the IANA root.

SUZANNE WOOLF: No, but it might be better to extend something already done than—

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah.

SUZANNE WOOLF: The other things is, I'm looking at the list of attributes for distinguishing names and ... I'm sort of thinking out loud here, so I'm not sure of the

conclusion but it feels like at least some of this could be a little more compact.

WARREN KUMARI: We could actually just punt on a whole bunch of this stuff and be like, you know, “Many of these terms are already well defined in 8499 including ...”

SUZANNE WOOLF: Or even, there's lots of possible definitions of many of these terms, and we'll start with those and be explicit about extending or changing them just because we've got to start somewhere and that's a reasonably rigorous attempt.

WARREN KUMARI: Yep.

SUZANNE WOOLF: Does that help at all, do you think, Warren?

WARREN KUMARI: I think so. We had discussed some of these. For example, our domain name one was directly lifted from 8499. But some of these are way more technical than is really appropriate [inaudible].

SUZANNE WOOLF: Yeah, that's the tough part. But I just get uneasy every time I hear brainstorming on—

WARREN KUMARI: Yep.

SUZANNE WOOLF: —language that feels like it should already be defined. But again, I'm thinking out loud here so I'm going to stop.

WARREN KUMARI: So interestingly, I can't actually tell from looking at 8499 where the definition of "global DNS" ends. I think that maybe, actually, "global DNS" covers everything we want to say. But the formatting of it is weird because I can't tell if "global DNS" includes administration of names and format of names and composition of names. It looks like it does because of how it is indented, but it now seems very funky. It looks like we've got a weirdly-nested ...

So, yeah. You see there's "global DNS" as a definition. And "composition of names" apparently is a sub-definition under that. And then "format of names." And assuming that I'm reading this correctly, "global DNS" is actually the definition that we want because it also includes "administration of names."

And [they were shocked by it].

SUZANNE WOOLF: I think you're right. No, I think—

WARREN KUMARI: It's just I don't think [inaudible].

SUZANNE WOOLF: I think you're. And, actually, what I'm looking at is, why didn't we reformat that?

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah, it's really formatted. Like, the fact that we managed [to put it] through without anybody noticing.

SUZANNE WOOLF: No, no. I think it is self-consistent.

WARREN KUMARI: Yep.

SUZANNE WOOLF: But it could have been better.

WARREN KUMARI: It's weird. So, yeah, I see—

SUZANNE WOOLF: But, yeah, I think you're right.

WARREN KUMARI: "Global DNS" as being ... It actually seems like that definition works. I think we could copy and paste it and remove a whole bunch of stuff like "format of names" and "composition of names." But it does seem to cover it.

SUZANNE WOOLF: If others agree, that would make me very happy. Not that making me happy is the primary goal here, but, you know, second or third on the list ...

WARREN KUMARI: That goes right by making Warren happy because everything in the world is about making Warren happy. Or should be. Maybe Barry's right and there has been a Zoom update which makes it so other people can't [inaudible].

BARRY LEIBA: So, does anyone not like what Warren and Suzanne just proposed?

WARREN KUMARI: Other than the fact that I demand a refund for the last eight hours of my life on these calls.

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah, it's pity we can't get that.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah.

RUSS HOUSLEY: You can demand all you want.

WARREN KUMARI: Ooh.

SUZANNE WOOLF: You can check out any time you like.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Exactly.

WARREN KUMARI: And never leave.

BARRY LEIBA: It's too bad that Geoff is not on this call because I would expect him to be piping up with an opinion on this matter.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Well, Jim was also vocal and he is here. So, could I ping you, Jim? Are you happier than when you were last time?

JIM GALVIN: Well—

JACQUES LATOUR: I can answer the same question as him.

JIM GALVIN: Sure.

JACQUES LATOUR: All right. So I quickly skimmed the “global DNS” definition. I like it. I think it addresses what we want to do. So maybe what we should do here is put a small summary of the highlight from the RFC. So, a small paragraph to explain what are the key attributes. But I like this.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: And with that, then we would delete “public Internet DNS naming system”?

WARREN KUMARI: Yes.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Okay. Going once, going twice.

WARREN KUMARI: Because I believe that it's all covered there. Do we think that, actually ... Push CTRL+Z just in case we need the text back. So the definition 8499, I believe, is correct and complete, etc. Do we think that it is actually intelligible to our audience?

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah. That's a good question. It very carefully makes the distinction, for instance, between the period being a character that is interpreted a certain way and just a presentation format.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah.

BARRY LEIBA: And that's something ... You know, we understand why that distinction needs to be made. I'm not sure that other readers would follow that. So there may be some explanation needed.

SUZANNE WOOLF: Or basically figure out which attributes, which pieces of that definition that goes on for, what, a page and a half—

BARRY LEIBA: Right.

SUZANNE WOOLF: —are really important to the point we're trying to make. And just make sure that it's clear in the text we're writing that this is derived from 8499. And if you want to go deeper, that's where you go.

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah.

WARREN KUMARI: I believe the bits that we need is “global DNS,” the actual paragraph which is directly connected to there. And skip “composition of name” and “format of name.” But what we need, again, is “administration of names.” And that's it.

BARRY LEIBA: I think we do need to ... Can we ... Well [inaudible].

WARREN KUMARI: I also don't think [inaudible]—

BARRY LEIBA: We need—

WARREN KUMARI: Sorry. Go ahead.

BARRY LEIBA: We need to import the definition of “label” as well, I think.

WARREN KUMARI: Okay. In that case, I think we should just say, “Go see ‘global DNS’”—

BARRY LEIBA: Yes.

WARREN KUMARI: —because I think people will ... I mean, we could maybe have a tiny footnote being like, “You don't need to understand every single word in there, just the broad brush.” Or if somebody reads it and doesn't quite understand what exactly we mean by “in both English and the C programming language the root of blah, blah, blah is the ordered list of whatever.” If they don't understand exactly what that means, they can just kind of glaze over that. But it's still useful, I think, to have read.

SUZANNE WOOLF: It's even useful to establish that there is a definition that has been analyzed and worked over and that it's not just ...

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah.

SUZANNE WOOLF: It's not vague terminology that doesn't have reasonably well-defined meaning.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. I think even if people don't actually understand exactly what the definition is, I think it's useful to know that there are people who have thought about this and know exactly what the definition is. Right? I think that in itself is a useful attribute, having people understand that this is a well-known and understood and defined term [and meaning].

BARRY LEIBA: Yes. As long as Tim McSweeney doesn't try to argue about it, I think we're okay.

WARREN KUMARI: [inaudible].

SUZANNE WOOLF: I think I'm fine with Tim McSweeney arguing about it. Been there, done that.

WARREN KUMARI: Now, of course, we run into the ... Are there other definitions in here that are better than what we have? Like, "domain name is an ordered list of one or more labels." So maybe "domain namespace" is the set of all possible domain names. That would [inaudible] our ...

RUSS HOUSLEY: Andrew, you've got your hand up. I'll bet you want to jump in and provide some important guidance here.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Yeah. So I was just thinking, because I already stole "label" and "domain name" from RFC 8499 and now we're taking "globally DNS" as well. It probably makes sense just at the beginning of the section to say, "This document uses some definitions from RFC 8499 and then also defines some new terms" and then just list the terms that we took from 8499 and just leave it at that.

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah. I would go a little further, even, and say that the terminology used in this document is consistent with that defined in RFC 8499, and then call out a particular set of them that we want to highlight. But if we use anything in a manner that's different from what's defined in 8499, I think we're doing something wrong. So ...

ANDREW MCCONACHIE: We'd better have a really good reason.

BARRY LEIBA: Yes. And then we add other definitions that we need for the purpose of this document. But that's fine, yeah, as you said.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Do you want a “specifically” and then me to just list them there?

RUSS HOUSLEY: Or even “especially” or “highlighting” or something.

BARRY LEIBA: Yes. That's my that's my point.

WARREN KUMARI: So, Warren is having lots of fun with the reactions thing in Zoom at this point.

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah. I see tears and the hand up and ...

RUSS HOUSLEY: Your hand's up and you're crying. Yeah, we saw.

WARREN KUMARI: And that's because I think that this is a great idea, but we are going to then have to be very careful that we all read 8499 and read it carefully so that we all know exactly what it means. And every time we use a term, it means exactly what we intend it to mean.

BARRY LEIBA: No more and no less.

[RUSS HOUSLEY]: Yes.

WARREN KUMARI: Indeed, Humpty Dumpty.

SUZANNE WOOLF: It means exactly what I say it means.

[RUSS HOUSLEY]: Exactly.

WARREN KUMARI: Okay.

BARRY LEIBA: Now I'm trying to figure out what the reaction that Jacques just posted was.

JACQUES LATOUR: I feel like a space invader.

BARRY LEIBA: Ah.

JACQUES LATOUR: That's my [inaudible].

BARRY LEIBA: And that was what it was.

RUSS HOUSLEY: And Warren feels the need to quote Alice to explain things.

WARREN KUMARI: That is indeed the important part of the quote.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yes.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Yeah, it's unfortunate. So 8499 has a definition ... Or it uses the term "DNS namespace" but it doesn't define it. It uses the term when it talks about multicast DNS.

WARREN KUMARI: It uses the term, what? "Domain namespace"?

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: "DNS namespace."

WARREN KUMARI: "DNS namespace." Somebody should shout at Paul.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Oh, it's so fun.

WARREN KUMARI: "Also, where the above quote says 'a portion of the DNS namespace...'"
I think we said that domain namespace is the set of all names that can count as domain names, and DNS namespace is the set of all names that can be constructed using DNS syntax.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yeah.

WARREN KUMARI: But we should point out on the DNS list—preferably not me or Suzanne because, you know, we're friends and I'm not tossing her under the bus—that somebody needs to define "DNS namespace" in this document.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Well, maybe it's defined somewhere else. I'd have to—

RUSS HOUSLEY: It's the set of all possible labels. Right?

BARRY LEIBA: I'll also note that in the introduction to 8499, it says "The Root Server System Advisory Committee has a good lexicon" and points to that. It would be interesting to see if there are any deviations, any substantive differences between that and this.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: That's a very short document. Do want to see that?

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah.

WARREN KUMARI: It doesn't say very much.

ANDREW MCCONACHIE: Oh, okay. I haven't looked at it yet.

WARREN KUMARI: I mean, it's actually probably helpful for Andrew to bring it up quickly.

BARRY LEIBA: Yep.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Let me find that.

WARREN KUMARI: I must admit I have not looked at the WHATWG one for “domain.”

BARRY LEIBA: I try to avoid looking at the WHATWG documents.

WARREN KUMARI: It's just a domain [inaudible]. Sweet. “A domain is a non-empty ASCII string that identifies a realm within a network.” They say that comes from 1034. That is a thoroughly unhelpful definition.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: I don't think there's anything in this RSSAC026v2 that talks about the namespace.

BARRY LEIBA: Yep, I [inaudible].

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: And the RSSAC never talks about the namespace.

BARRY LEIBA: Their definitions are talking about root servers and stuff.

ANDREW MCCONACHIE: Yeah.

BARRY LEIBA: All right. So we don't need to worry about that. And what Warren just quoted is exactly one of the reasons that I don't tend to look at the WHAT Working Group documents.

WARREN KUMARI: "A valid domain string must be a string that is a valid domain."

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible].

WARREN KUMARI: Thank you, WHATWG.

SUZANNE WOOLF: You're just making me feel better about DNSOP now.

WARREN KUMARI: Fair enough.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I'm sure that was his intent. Warren, your hand's up.

WARREN KUMARI: Oh, that's [inaudible].

SUZANNE WOOLF: Because making me happy is important.

WARREN KUMARI: There we go. So Google Meet will automatically lower your hand once you've spoken. I wish Zoom would do the same thing.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: So now that we have a definition for “global DNS” and we're going to be probably getting rid of this one—I'll leave the text here for now—is an alternative naming system just something that is not the global DNS?

WARREN KUMARI: Yep.

RUSS HOUSLEY: So, wait. That's what I was worried about with going to 8499. Is a private DNS and alternate naming system? I think the answer is yes, but let's make sure we all agree.

WARREN KUMARI: When we used to talk about it, we'd talk about the “alternate roots.” Right? So the fact that we've already been using that terminology, I think, helps demonstrate that it is. [Both of those]—

RUSS HOUSLEY: So we should say "including private DNS as defined in RFC 8499.”

WARREN KUMARI: Yes. Now that I started saying it, though, we keep talking about “alternate roots,” not “alternative roots.” And maybe we're actually talking about alternate naming systems, not alternative naming system.

BARRY LEIBA: Is an alternate naming system one that operates differently every other day?

WARREN KUMARI: Okay.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Oh, you're mean.

SUZANNE WOOLF: Yeah, that's just mean. There was no call for that.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yes. That's what I was thinking.

SUZANNE WOOLF: There was no call for that.

BARRY LEIBA: Okay.

SUZANNE WOOLF: I think that saying a private namespace is in fact an alternate namespace is actually a pretty good example of what we're talking about because it has to do with does the name conform to a specific set of conventions—sorry—to its specific syntax? Yes. Specific set of administrative assumptions and policies? No. So that's the difference.

WARREN KUMARI: You said a bunch of words there, and I understood each individual one as you said it. But I was unable to reassemble that in my head into a sentence.

SUZANNE WOOLF: Your brain is not your friend, Warren.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah, yeah. I agree.

SUZANNE WOOLF: All right. So let me say it again slower because, again, I was thinking out loud and I wasn't really ready for that. So what makes an alternate naming system on alternate? Well, you have to be able to point to some difference between it and the global DNS. Some meaningful difference.

WARREN KUMARI: Yep.

SUZANNE WOOLF: For private namespaces, the meaningful difference is administrative.

WARREN KUMARI: Yes.

SUZANNE WOOLF: It's administered privately and locally rather than subscribing, if you will, to the administration of the global DNS.

WARREN KUMARI: Yes.

SUZANNE WOOLF: And for anything else we're going to call an alternate naming system, we should be able to point to a specific, meaningful difference—

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah, I think that—

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible] [it is].

SUZANNE WOOLF: —between it and the global DNS that we just decided is actually pretty well defined.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. Which I think we can. Right? If it's an alternative root, it's that it's different administration than the ICANN/IANA one. If it is .wallet, it is different administration in the ICANN/IANA one and it is also a different protocol as well. So I think that for any name, we can do that. And if we can't, then I think, fairly much by definition, it is not an alternative naming system.

What I don't yet know is—and I don't know why this has become my standard reference point—what we do about somethingsomething.fruitorangedrops. It is a name which I'm planning on applying for as soon as the next round opens. It is not currently a name, which is in the IANA root, but as soon as I pay my \$185,000 it will be. So is www.fruityorangedrops currently a DNS name or is it an alternate name? Or is it undefined because it doesn't have an existence yet? And I think it's probably the latter.

RUSS HOUSLEY: So my thinking is that it's part of the domain namespace—

WARREN KUMARI: Yes.

RUSS HOUSLEY: —but it is not currently part of the global DNS.

WARREN KUMARI: Okay. So if I were to start using it internally, it would then be part of an alternate name resolution [system].

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yes, because you'd have to have a new root to do that.

WARREN KUMARI: Yep. Is it useful to have a term for things like ... I see ICO or—sorry—IOC or things which are covered by the IANA administration or ICANN administration possibly, but which they have said will not be delegated? Red Cross might be a better example. Or Red Crescent. Where they are under ICANN's administrative control but are not applicable for. Maybe we just leave that out because it's hopefully something we don't discuss in the document. And if we do, we then add it. Or maybe it is a domain name or DNS name. It feels weird if it were, but it is ...

SUZANNE WOOLF: Well, it is. It's just never going to actually appear ...

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. The thing is, if you said—

SUZANNE WOOLF: But the string does conform to the syntax rules.

WARREN KUMARI: Yep. But I would be surprised if somebody referred to www.redcross as a DNS name because it doesn't exist and never will. But I guess it depends on how they're using the term. According to our definition, it's a DNS name. It would be ...

ROD RASMUSSEN: You just used it. www.redcross is a DNS name that will never be used.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah ...

ROD RASMUSSEN: Sorry. I couldn't [inaudible].

RUSS HOUSLEY: Therefore ...

SUZANNE WOOLF: I like that partly because it also gets around something else that had me a little worried last week, which is that when you're talking about the production DNS—the global DNS as it should have actually existed—the zone, the root zone or a TLD zone is non-normative. The backing database is normative.

So for instance, you can have reserved names or deleted names or suspended names in the registry that are still domain names, but they are not part of a global DNS or ... Well, we can decide whether we think

they are, but they're perfectly legal domain names and technical terms.
But there are administrative reasons why they don't appear in real life.

WARREN KUMARI: So does www.redcross fit within the 8499 definition of global DNS?

SUZANNE WOOLF: [inaudible].

WARREN KUMARI: I don't know. I'm trying to figure it out. I think that it does. In which case, it's still a perfectly fine definition.

SUZANNE WOOLF: You can also ask whether a name suspended for misuse under the terms of ICANN's contractual commitments fits in that definition. And I would say yes.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. I think that both of them do.

SUZANNE WOOLF: Yes.

WARREN KUMARI: It has the correct syntax. It has the correct composition of names. It has the correct format of names. It has, I believe, the correct administration because there's some very clever wording in some of this. Although, actually, no. I don't know. I think maybe the definition here doesn't work for us because it says "administration as specified by delegation." And "redcross" is not specified by delegation because it is not delegated.

SUZANNE WOOLF: It's specified by ... Nobody delegates it. What's specified is that you can't delegate it.

WARREN KUMARI: Well, see the definition of "delegation" in Section 7. We could also just ... If anybody is like, "What do you do about 'redcross'?" we'll be like, "I don't know. We didn't think of that. Move on." Right? Maybe it doesn't have to be exactly perfect.

ANDREW MCCONACHIE: This should probably line up with SAC113. And I think what the SSAC asked for in SAC113 is the same thing as .redcross. Right?

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah.

ANDREW MCCONACHIE: And it will never be delegated.

WARREN KUMARI: So actually, `www.redcross` does not strictly fit within the global DNS definition because it said administration is whatever-whatever delegation. And “delegation” here says “The process by which a separate zone is created in the namespace beneath [bleargh]. Delegation happens when an NS RRset is added in the parent zone ...”

So technically, `www.redcross` is not a global domain name by this definition. I think we can just sweep that particular set of stuff under the rug and hope that we never get McSweeneyed.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: I added another term that I heard people use, DNS name. And I think how I heard it used ... DNS name is just a name that is in the global DNS. So `www.redcross` is not a DNS name. And that’s my understanding from what I heard.

BARRY LEIBA: The question is whether it's a name that is in the DNS now or a name that could be in the DNS tomorrow.

WARREN KUMARI: `www.redcross` does not fall within the RFC 8499 definition of “global DNS.”

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Right.

WARREN KUMARI: But I think let's just ignore that and move on because otherwise we will spend yet another full hour talking about the definitions.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Well, but in the same way that printer.local is not a DNS name. Right? It's also not within the global DNS.

WARREN KUMARI: Yes.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: But it is a domain name.

WARREN KUMARI: Yes.

BARRY LEIBA: The differences is printer.local can't be a name that is in the global DNS tomorrow. Something of the "redcross" variety can be.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: But they're separate lists. But they're still ... They're both names that are on lists, but they're different lists.

BARRY LEIBA: Yes.

ANDREW MCCONACHIE: Okay.

WARREN KUMARI: Yes. But ICANN could remove “redcross” from the list of Thou Shalt Not Apply For. Whereas, they could not remove .local from the list of You Can— Well, they could remove it from the list of You Cannot Apply For [inaudible].

ANDREW MCCONACHIE: It would be really, really bad.

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah. For all practical purposes, they can't. And yes, that is [inaudible].

WARREN KUMARI: I do think that they should remove .ssac from the list of strings you cannot apply for because [inaudible] a massive abuse of power. But, whatever.

BARRY LEIBA: “Massive,” huh?

WARREN KUMARI: Indeed. I know. And that very much feels like, you know, you get to put special strings on them because they're important to you as the person who happens to be running this. But why is SSAC on this list but Fruity Orange Drops isn't? Like, who the hell put you in charge?

Anyway, sorry. Moving on. Does this mean that we can remove "public Internet DNS naming system" now?

BARRY LEIBA: I think so.

[JACQUES LATOUR]: Yes.

WARREN KUMARI: And there's "alternative naming system. So actually, maybe we don't like "alternative name resolution protocol." Maybe it should be "non-DNS resolution protocol" because, otherwise, it feels confusing. We have "global DNS" and "DNS name." "Alternative naming system" and "alternative name resolution protocol." They feel like those are too tightly tied together. Why don't we just have "non-DNS resolution protocol"?

I guess it's okay as it is. Just, to me it feels weird that an alternative naming system" can exist that doesn't use an alternative name resolution protocol. I understand that it can, but I think that might be confusing to people. That they will associate, somehow, "alternative naming system" with "alternative name resolution protocol."

RUSS HOUSLEY: But Warren, if we go down that path that means that we're going to have to be, all of the time when we're talking about it, saying "systems that use DNS or don't use DNS, etc." Right?

WARREN KUMARI: What? Where? I'm lost.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Later when we get to the meat of this document, not in the definition section, if the alternative doesn't include "non-IANA root" because it uses the DNS protocol but a non-IANA root. If that's not alternative, we're going to end up explaining that over and over and over and over and over ...

WARREN KUMARI: No, no, no. [inaudible] we keep "alternative naming system." Just, I don't know if having "alternative name resolution protocol" is a useful term to use. Or if whenever we want to use that we could just say [inaudible].

RUSS HOUSLEY: I see. Okay. Now I understand.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: But it's possible to have an alternative naming system that uses the DNS protocol.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yes.

WARREN KUMARI: Yes, exactly. That's my point. So I think we should just remove "alternative name resolution protocol." The definition for it. And whenever we need to talk about a resolution protocol that's not the DNS, just say "non-DNS protocol." Or we can have [a definition] of "non-DNS protocol." That's a resolution protocol that's not the DNS one.

RUSS HOUSLEY: "Protocol other than DNS."

WARREN KUMARI: Yep.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yes. Okay. I misunderstood your comment.

WARREN KUMARI: Okay, cool. Fair enough. Woo! We're making progress. There's less words.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I think we're—

BARRY LEIBA: But that means that we—

RUSS HOUSLEY: We're done with definitions. Right?

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Do people like the definition for “alternative naming system”?

WARREN KUMARI: Would you mind clicking Yes on some of your things?

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Sure.

WARREN KUMARI: Thank you. [inaudible] names. That is not ... I personally would think just “a naming system that is not the global DNS” and [inaudible].

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: “[inaudible] naming system.”

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. "A naming system other than the global DNS." Actually, probably "any naming system other than the global DNS" just for grammar.

BARRY LEIBA: Sure.

WARREN KUMARI: Woo!

BARRY LEIBA: I think that marches.

WARREN KUMARI: Good thing we're being paid by the hour and not by the word.

SUZANNE WOOLF: We're being paid?

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. Aren't we? I've been counting my hours so I can submit a bill at the end of my time at ICANN.

RUSS HOUSLEY: We're being paid in kibble.

WARREN KUMARI: Oh, kibble and bits. Kibble and bits.

BARRY LEIBA: You know, when they put out a spread for lunch sometimes. That's the payment.

WARREN KUMARI: Excellent.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I don't know. Kibble makes me think of dogs, and I'm not a dog. Cat maybe. But not a dog.

BARRY LEIBA: Well, I think of kibble as for cats also. Never mind.

WARREN KUMARI: I do have some furry friends who would be fine with that. And I wasn't muted for that.

BARRY LEIBA: So we probably are at a stage where next week we can actually talk about the meat of the document.

WARREN KUMARI: That would be nice.

BARRY LEIBA: We are meeting next week. Right? [inaudible].

WARREN KUMARI: Had to make sure homing right.

BARRY LEIBA: [inaudible]. Yeah, next week—

RUSS HOUSLEY: Same bat channel.

BARRY LEIBA: Then maybe the week after we probably do not because—

SUZANNE WOOLF: Yeah. It's the week after that we're in travel land.

ROD RASMUSSEN: Yeah, that's travel time.

WARREN KUMARI: Yeah. I'll be on a plane then.

BARRY LEIBA: So, yes meeting on the 8th. No meeting on the 15th or the ... And we've already canceled the 22nd.

WARREN KUMARI: Are we meeting in Kuala Lumpur?

BARRY LEIBA: Unknown. Kathy?

KATHY SCHNITT: Yeah. I have it on the agenda to schedule a work party for you guys in Kuala Lumpur.

BARRY LEIBA: Okay. Please not on ... I leave Tuesday night. So I know we have two slots on Wednesday and I will not be there for them. Nor will I be able to participate remotely.

KATHY SCHNITT: Do you want me to not schedule at ICANN75, Barry?

BARRY LEIBA: Well, I think it would be [inaudible] to schedule it at ... I don't know. Russ, do you think you'll be able to participate—

RUSS HOUSLEY: Well, the time zone will make it very difficult for me to participate remotely.

BARRY LEIBA: Then maybe we should just skip it for KL and plan to do it in Cancún.

KATHY SCHNITT: Sure, no problem. Noted.

WARREN KUMARI: Or we could schedule it and then realize there are not enough people and cancel. And that way we've got a free slot.

BARRY LEIBA: We kind of did that for The Hague.

WARREN KUMARI: Did we? Okay. [inaudible]. Anyway.

ROD RASMUSSEN: [inaudible]. I was going to say it might be an opportunity for those who are there rather than participating in the work party to get an update on where we are. But that only would take a few minutes. We can schedule that at any time.

BARRY LEIBA: Yes. Yes indeed.

ROD RASMUSSEN: Yeah.

BARRY LEIBA: Okay. Have we gone as far as we can with only having eight minutes left, such that we should end now?

WARREN KUMARI: So I suspect that our homework ... And I don't know why it's me who's assigning homework. But I think that our homework should be people should really read 8499 so when we—sometime next meeting—use the term “subdomain,” we'll all know exactly what we mean.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yeah. It would be good to look at Section 5 of the Google Doc.

BARRY LEIBA: Yes. So that's the two things. Read this definition section and 8499 and make sure that we're good. And read Section 5 of this document because that's what we're going to be talking about next week.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I'm sorry. It's 6. My fault.

BARRY LEIBA: Yeah.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I forgot that Andrew renumbered it.

BARRY LEIBA: [inaudible] Section 6 of this document because that's what we're going to be focusing on next week. So let's try to be prepared to kick off discussion on that. By reading, I also mean feel free to put in comments and suggestions and whatever. And make a mess of it so it's hard for everybody else to read.

WARREN KUMARI: Sounds really fun.

ANDREW MCCONOCHIE: Yeah. And I wrote Section 6 before we spent all of this time on definitions, so I need to kind of look at it again. That's on me.

BARRY LEIBA: Okay.

RUSS HOUSLEY: All right, everybody. Thank you.

WARREN KUMARI: Bye, y'all.

BARRY LEIBA: Thanks, everybody.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Bye-bye.

JACQUES LATOUR: Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]