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**Information technology — Open  
systems interconnection —**

**Part 4:  
The Directory: Procedures for  
distributed operation**

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## Foreword

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This document was prepared by ITU-T as ITU-T X.518 (10/2019) and drafted in accordance with its editorial rules, in collaboration with Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Telecommunications and information exchange between systems*.

This ninth edition cancels and replaces the eighth edition (ISO/IEC 9594-4:2017), which has been technically revised.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 9594 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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## Introduction

This Recommendation | International Standard, together with other Recommendations | International Standards, have been produced to facilitate the interconnection of information processing systems to provide directory services. A set of such systems, together with the directory information that they hold, can be viewed as an integrated whole, called the *Directory*. The information held by the Directory, collectively known as the Directory information base (DIB), is typically used to facilitate communication between, with or about objects such as application entities, people, terminals and distribution lists.

The Directory plays a significant role in Open Systems Interconnection, whose aim is to allow, with a minimum of technical agreement outside of the interconnection standards themselves, the interconnection of information processing systems:

- from different manufacturers;
- under different managements;
- of different levels of complexity; and
- of different ages.

This Recommendation | International Standard specifies the procedures by which the distributed components of the Directory interwork in order to provide a consistent service to its users.

This Recommendation | International Standard provides the foundation frameworks upon which industry profiles can be defined by other standards groups and industry forums. Many of the features defined as optional in these frameworks may be mandated for use in certain environments through profiles. This ninth edition technically revises and enhances the eighth edition of this Recommendation | International Standard.

This ninth edition specifies versions 1 and 2 of the Directory protocols.

Rec. ITU-T X.511 (1993) | ISO/IEC 9594-3 (1995), Rec. ITU-T X.518 (1993) | ISO/IEC 9594-4 (1995) and Rec. ITU-T X.519 (1993) | ISO/IEC 9594-5 (1995) and their previous edition specified only version 1. Most of the services and protocols specified in this edition are designed to function under version 1. However, some enhanced services and protocols, e.g., signed errors, will not function unless all Directory entities involved in the operation have negotiated version 2. Whichever version has been negotiated, differences between the services and between the protocols defined in the nine editions, except for those specifically assigned to version 2, are accommodated using the rules of extensibility defined in Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5.

Annex A, which is an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, provides the ASN.1 module for directory distributed operations.

Annex B, which is an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, provides the ASN.1 module providing definitions for hierarchical operational bindings.

Annex C, which is not an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, describes an example of distributed name resolution.

Annex D, which is not an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, describes authentication in the distributed operations environment.

Annex E, which is not an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, illustrates knowledge maintenance.

Annex F, which is not an integral part of this Recommendation | International Standard, lists the amendments and defect reports that have been incorporated to form this edition of this Recommendation | International Standard.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD ISO/IEC 9594-4  
RECOMMENDATION ITU-T X.518

**Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory:  
Procedures for distributed operation**

SECTION 1 – GENERAL

**1 Scope**

This Recommendation | International Standard specifies the behaviour of DSAs taking part in a distributed directory consisting of multiple Directory systems agents (DSAs) and/or LDAP servers with at least one DSA. The allowed behaviour has been designed to ensure a consistent service given a wide distribution of the DIB across a distributed directory. Only the behaviour of DSAs taking part in a distributed directory is specified. The behaviour of LDAP servers are specified in relevant LDAP specifications. There are no special requirements on an LDAP server beyond those given by the LDAP specifications.

The Directory is not intended to be a general purpose database system, although it may be built on such systems. It is assumed that there is a considerably higher frequency of queries than of updates.

**2 References**

**2.1 Normative references**

The following Recommendations and International Standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Recommendation | International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All Recommendations and Standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this Recommendation | International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the Recommendations and Standards listed below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards. The Telecommunication Standardization Bureau of the ITU maintains a list of currently valid ITU-T Recommendations.

**2.1.1 Identical Recommendations | International Standards**

- Recommendation ITU-T X.500 (2019) | ISO/IEC 9594-1:2020, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Overview of concepts, models and services.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.501 (2019) | ISO/IEC 9594-2:2020, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Models.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.509 (2019) | ISO/IEC 9594-8:2020, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Public-key and attribute certificate frameworks.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.511 (2019) | ISO/IEC 9594-3:2020, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Abstract service definition.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.519 (2019) | ISO/IEC 9594-5:2020, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Protocol specifications.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.520 (2019) | ISO/IEC 9594-6:2020, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Selected attribute types.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.521 (2019) | ISO/IEC 9594-7:2020, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Selected object classes.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.525 (2019) | ISO/IEC 9594-9:2020, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – The Directory: Replication.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.680 (2015) | ISO/IEC 8824-1:2015, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Specification of basic notation.*

### 2.1.2 Other references

- Recommendation ITU-T X.681 (2015) | ISO/IEC 8824-2:2015, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Information object specification.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.682 (2015) | ISO/IEC 8824-3:2015, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Constraint specification.*
- Recommendation ITU-T X.683 (2015) | ISO/IEC 8824-4:2015, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Parameterization of ASN.1 specifications.*
- IETF RFC 4511 (2006), *Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP): The Protocol.*
- IETF RFC 4514 (2006), *Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP): String Representation of Distinguished Names.*

### 2.2 Non-normative reference

- IETF RFC 4510 (2006), *Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP): Technical Specification Road Map.*

## 3 Definitions

For the purposes of this Recommendation | International Standard, the following definitions apply:

### 3.1 Basic Directory definitions

The following terms are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.500 | ISO/IEC 9594-1:

- a) *(the) Directory;*
- b) *Directory Information Base.*

### 3.2 Directory model definitions

The following terms are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2:

- a) *access point;*
- b) *alias;*
- c) *Directory Information Tree ;*
- d) *Directory System Agent (DSA);*
- e) *Directory User Agent (DUA);*
- f) *distinguished name;*
- g) *relative distinguished name.*

### 3.3 DSA information model definitions

The following terms are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2:

- a) *category;*
- b) *commonly usable;*
- c) *context prefix;*
- d) *cross reference;*
- e) *DIB fragment;*
- f) *DSA information tree;*
- g) *DSA-Specific Entry (DSE);*
- h) *DSE type;*
- i) *immediate superior reference;*
- j) *knowledge information;*
- k) *knowledge reference category;*
- l) *knowledge reference type;*

- m) *naming context*;
- n) *non-specific knowledge*;
- o) *non-specific subordinate reference*;
- p) *operational attribute*;
- q) *reference path*;
- r) *specific knowledge*;
- s) *subordinate reference*;
- t) *superior reference*.

### 3.4 Abstract service definitions

The following terms are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3:

- a) *reply*;
- b) *request*;
- c) *requester*.

### 3.5 Protocol definitions

The following terms are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5:

- a) *application-association*;
- b) *application-entity-title*.

### 3.6 Directory replication definitions

The following terms are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9:

- a) *attribute completeness*;
- b) *shadowing operational binding*;
- c) *subordinate completeness*;
- d) *unit of replication*.

### 3.7 Distributed operation definitions

The following terms are defined in this Recommendation | International Standard:

- 3.7.1 base object:** The object or alias entry that is the target for an operation as issued by the requester.
- 3.7.2 bound DSA:** The DSA to which the requesting DUA or LDAP client has bound, by having performed a Bind operation with that DSA.
- 3.7.3 bound-DSA paged results:** The paging is performed entirely by the DSA to which the DUA is bound.  
NOTE – This is the only mode of paging supported by systems conforming to Rec. ITU-T X.518 (2001) | ISO/IEC 9594-4:2001 or prior editions.
- 3.7.4 chaining:** The generic term for uni-chaining or multi-chaining.
- 3.7.5 context prefix information:** Operational and user information supplied by the superior DSA to the subordinate DSA in an RHOB regarding DIT vertices superior to the subordinate context prefix.
- 3.7.6 directory server:** A DSA or an LDAP server.
- 3.7.7 distributed directory:** An interconnected set of directory servers where at least one directory server shall be a DSA.
- 3.7.8 distributed name resolution:** The process by which name resolution starts in a DSA and continues in one or more Directory servers.
- 3.7.9 DSP paged results:** The DSP protocol provisions when a performing DSA is different from a bound DSA, whereby paged results by the initial performer are accomplished.
- 3.7.10 error:** Information sent from the performer to the requester conveying a negative outcome of a previously received request.

- 3.7.11 hard error:** A definite error which indicates that the operation cannot currently be performed without external intervention.
- 3.7.12 hierarchical operational binding (HOB):** Relationship between two master DSAs holding naming contexts, one of which is immediately subordinate to the other, in which the superior DSA holds a subordinate reference to the subordinate DSA.
- 3.7.13 initial performer:** The first DSA or LDAP server to start performing on an operation, i.e., the first DSA or LDAP server to enter the evaluation phase of the operation.
- 3.7.14 LDAP requester:** A DSA that has the ability to access an LDAP server by using the LDAP protocol.
- 3.7.15 modification operations:** These are the Directory Modify operations, i.e., Modify Entry, Add Entry, Remove Entry, Modify DN, Change Password and Administer Password operations.
- 3.7.16 multi-chaining:** A mode of interaction in which a DSA processing a request itself sends multiple requests either in parallel or sequentially to a set of other DSAs.
- 3.7.17 multiple entry interrogation operations:** These are the Directory Search operations, i.e., List and Search operations.
- 3.7.18 name resolution:** The process of locating an entry by sequentially matching each RDN in a purported name to a vertex of the DIT.
- 3.7.19 non-specific hierarchical operational binding (NHOB):** Relationship between two master DSAs holding naming contexts, one of which is immediately subordinate to the other, in which the superior DSA holds a non-specific subordinate reference to the subordinate DSA.
- 3.7.20 NSSR decomposition:** Decomposition of non-specific knowledge references into subrequests for other DSAs to pursue; these subrequests may be either chained to these DSAs by the DSA performing the decomposition, or a continuation reference identifying the DSAs may be returned to the requester for it to pursue, or the decomposing DSA may pursue some of the subrequests, leaving others unexplored for the requester to pursue.
- 3.7.21 operation progress:** A set of values which denotes the extent to which name resolution has taken place.
- 3.7.22 paging:** A **search** or **list** result is returned piecewise in the form of one or more pages that are comprised by a limited number of entries.
- 3.7.23 performer:** DSA receiving a request (i.e., to perform an operation).  
NOTE – The performer is also the initial performer except possibly for operations that involve more than one DSA for their evaluation.
- 3.7.24 procedure:** An (informal) specification of how a DSA maps a given set of input arguments and its DSA information tree into a result.  
NOTE – Input arguments and results may correspond to information received in a requested operation and information sent in a reply, or they may represent intermediate stages in the computation of a reply from a requested operation. In clause 14.2, the former variety of input arguments and results are termed external.
- 3.7.25 relevant hierarchical operational binding (RHOB):** Either an HOB or an NHOB, depending on the context.
- 3.7.26 referral:** An outcome which can be returned by a DSA or LDAP server which cannot perform an operation itself, and which identifies one or more other DSAs or LDAP servers more able to perform the operation.
- 3.7.27 request decomposition:** Decomposition by a DSA of a request into subrequests for other Directory servers to pursue; these subrequests may be either chained to these Directory servers by the DSA performing the decomposition, or continuation references identifying the Directory servers may be returned to the requester for it to pursue, or the decomposing DSA may pursue some of the subrequests, leaving others unexplored for the requester to pursue.
- 3.7.28 single entry interrogation operations:** These are the Directory Read operations, i.e., Read and Compare operations.
- 3.7.29 soft error:** An error which may be transient, or which may indicate a localized problem, in which case the use of a different knowledge reference or access point may enable a result or hard error to be obtained.
- 3.7.30 subordinate DSA:** Of the two DSAs sharing an HOB or an NHOB, the DSA holding the subordinate naming context.
- 3.7.31 subrequest:** A request generated by request decomposition.
- 3.7.32 superior DSA:** Of the two DSAs sharing an HOB or an NHOB, the DSA holding the superior naming context.

**3.7.33 superior, subordinate DSA:** Two master DSAs holding naming contexts, one of which is immediately subordinate to the other; the relationship between the two DSAs is managed explicitly via an HOB (or NHOB), or exists implicitly by virtue of the superior DSA holding a subordinate (or non-specific subordinate) reference to the subordinate DSA.

**3.7.34 target object name:** The name of an entry either to which the operation is to be directed at a particular stage of name resolution, or which is involved in the evaluation of the operation.

**3.7.35 uni-chaining:** A mode of interaction optionally used by a DSA which cannot perform an operation itself. The DSA *chains* by invoking an operation of another DSA or LDAP server and then relaying the outcome to the original requester.

## 4 Abbreviations

For the purposes of this Recommendation | International Standard, the following abbreviations apply:

ASN.1	Abstract Syntax Notation One
DAP	Directory Access Protocol
DIB	Directory Information Base
DISP	Directory Information Shadowing Protocol
DMD	Directory Management Domain
DOP	Directory Operational Binding Management Protocol
DSA	Directory System Agent
DSE	DSA-Specific Entry
DSP	Directory System Protocol
DUA	Directory User Agent
HOB	Hierarchical Operational Binding
LDAP	Lightweight Directory Access Protocol
NHOB	Non-specific Hierarchical Operational Binding
NSSR	Non-Specific Subordinate Reference
RHOB	Relevant Hierarchical Operational Binding

## 5 Conventions

The term "Directory Specification" (as in "this Directory Specification") shall be taken to mean Rec. ITU-T X.518 | ISO/IEC 9594-4. The term "Directory Specifications" shall be taken to mean the Rec. ITU-T X.500-series | ISO/IEC 9594-1, Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2, Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3, Rec. ITU-T X.518 | ISO/IEC 9594-4, Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5, Rec. ITU-T X.520 | ISO/IEC 9594-6, Rec. ITU-T X.521 | ISO/IEC 9594-7 and Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

If an International Standard or ITU-T Recommendation is referenced within normal text without an indication of the edition, the edition shall be taken to be the latest one as specified in the normative references clause.

Prior to year 2020, the parts making up the Directory Specifications progressed together and can therefore collectively be identified as the Directory Specifications of a specific edition using the format: Rec. ITU-T X.5\*\* (yyyy) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:yyyy (e.g.; Rec. ITU-T X.5\*\* (1993) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:1995).

This Directory Specification makes extensive use of Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) for the formal specification of data types and values, as it is specified in Rec. ITU-T X.680 | ISO/IEC 8824-1, ITU-T X.681 (2015) | ISO/IEC 8824-2, ITU-T X.682 (2015) | ISO/IEC 8824-3, ITU-T X.683 (2015) | ISO/IEC 8824-4 and Rec. ITU-T X.690 | ISO/IEC 8825-1.

This Directory Specification presents ASN.1 notation in the bold Courier New typeface. When ASN.1 types and values are referenced in normal text, they are differentiated from normal text by presenting them in the bold Courier New typeface. The names of procedures, typically referenced when specifying the semantics of processing, are differentiated from normal text by displaying them in bold Times New Roman. Access control permissions are presented in italicized Times New Roman.

If the items in a list are numbered (as opposed to using "-" or letters), then the items shall be considered steps in a procedure.

## SECTION 2 – OVERVIEW

## 6 Overview

The Directory abstract service allows the interrogation, retrieval and modification of Directory information in the DIB. This service is specified in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. Similarly, the lightweight directory access protocol (LDAP) allows the interrogation, retrieval and modification of Directory information in the DIB. This protocol and the services it enables are specified in IETF RFC 4511.

The abstract service as specified in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3 does not address the specification of Directory system agents (DSA) within which the DIB is stored and managed, and through which the service is provided. Furthermore, it does not consider whether the DIB is centralized, i.e., contained within a single DSA, or distributed over a DSA and a number of additional DSAs and/or LDAP servers. Directory server is the common name for a DSA or an LDAP server. Consequently, the requirements for DSAs to have knowledge of, navigate to and cooperate with other DSAs and or LDAP servers, in order to support the abstract service in a distributed environment is also not covered by the abstract service specification.

This Directory Specification specifies how a set of one or more DSAs and zero or more LDAP servers collectively constitute the distributed directory service.

In addition, this Directory Specification specifies the permissible ways in which the DIB may be distributed over one or more DSAs and zero or more LDAP servers. For the limiting case where the DIB is contained within a single DSA, the Directory is in fact centralized; for the case where the DIB is distributed over two or more DSAs, knowledge and navigation mechanisms are specified which ensure that the whole of the DIB is potentially accessible from all DSAs that hold constituent entries.

Portions of the DIB may also be replicated in multiple DSAs. The protocols described in this Directory Specification allow the use of replicated information to improve the availability, performance and efficiency of the distributed directory service. The use of replicated information is, to some extent, under the user's control, through the use of service control options. The procedures described in this Directory Specification also indicate some of the opportunities for design optimizations when using the replicated information.

Additionally, request handling interactions are specified that enable particular operational characteristics of the Directory to be controlled by its users. In particular, the user has control over whether a DSA, responding to a directory inquiry pertaining to information held in other directory server(s), has the option of interrogating the other DSA(s) directly (chaining) or, whether it should respond with information about other directory server(s) which could further progress the inquiry (referral).

Generally, the decision by a DSA to chain or refer is determined by the service controls set by the user, and by the DSA's own administrative, operational or technical circumstances.

Recognizing that, in general, the Directory will be distributed, and that directory inquiries will be satisfied by an arbitrary number of cooperating DSAs which may arbitrarily chain or refer according to the above criteria, this Directory Specification specifies the appropriate procedures to be effected by DSAs in responding to distributed directory inquiries. These procedures will ensure that users of the distributed Directory service perceive it to be both user-friendly and consistent.

NOTE – Although an LDAP server may participate in a distributed operation, it is not aware of this cooperation.

## SECTION 3 – DISTRIBUTED DIRECTORY MODELS

## 7 Distributed Directory system model

The Directory abstract service, as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3, models the Directory as an entity which provides a set of directory services to its users. Users of the Directory access its services through an access point.

Figure 1 illustrates the distributed directory model which will be used as the basis for specifying the distributed aspects of the directory. It illustrates the Directory as comprising a set of one or more DSAs and zero or more LDAP servers.

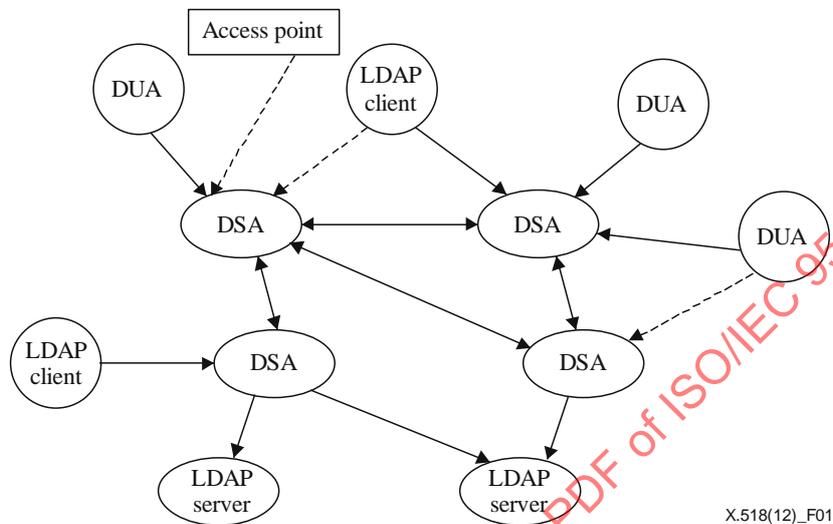


Figure 1 – The distributed directory model

DSAs are specified in detail in the subsequent clauses of this Directory Specification. This clause merely states a number of their characteristics, in order to serve as an introduction and to establish the relationship between this Directory Specification and the other Directory Specifications.

DSAs are defined in order that distribution of the DIB can be accommodated and that a number of physically distributed DSAs and LDAP servers can interact in a prescribed, cooperative manner to provide directory services to the users of the directory (DUAs and/or LDAP clients).

Figure 1 illustrates the relationship between the directory abstract service and the DSA abstract service. The directory abstract service defined in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3 is provided through a number of Directory operations. To realize this service, the DSAs and LDAP servers that comprise the Directory interact with one another. The nature of this interaction is defined in terms of the service that one DSA may provide to another DSA, the DSA abstract service. In addition, a DSA may interact with an LDAP server using the LDAP protocol as defined by IETF RFC 4511. When doing this, the DSA is called an *LDAP requester* and the DSA abstract service does not apply for this type of interaction. A DSA that is directly bound to a DUA or LDAP client is called the *bound DSA* (for that DUA or LDAP client).

As indicated in Figure 1, each of two interacting DSAs may provide a DSA abstract service to the other DSA. However, an LDAP server is not able to send requests to a DSA or to another LDAP server. LDAP servers are therefore always at the edge of the infrastructure.

The DSA abstract service is provided through a number of operations, termed chained operations, each having a counterpart in the Directory abstract service. Thus, a given operation in the directory abstract service, e.g., Read, may require that the DSA providing the service interact with one or more other DSAs using chained operations, e.g., Chained Read.

A DUA or LDAP client can only access the Directory by interacting with a DSA.

NOTE – An LDAP client interaction with an LDAP server is specified by IETF RFC 4510 and is outside the scope of these Directory Specifications.

## 8 DSA interactions model

A basic characteristic of the Directory is that, given a distributed DIB, a requester should potentially be able to have any service request satisfied (subject to security, access control, service restrictions and administrative policies) irrespective of the access point at which the request originates. In accommodating this requirement, it is necessary that any DSA involved in satisfying a particular service request has some knowledge (as specified in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2) of where the requested information is located and either return this knowledge to the requester or attempt to have the request satisfied on its behalf. (The requester may be a DUA, an LDAP client or another DSA (possibly on behalf of bound LDAP clients). In the latter case, both DSAs shall support the DSP.

Three modes of DSA interaction are defined to meet these requirements, namely "uni-chaining", "multi-chaining", and "referral". Throughout the remainder of this Directory Specification, the generic term chaining is used to refer to uni-chaining and/or multi-chaining as appropriate to the particular situation. "Chaining" refers to the attempt by a DSA to satisfy a request by sending one or more chained operations to other DSAs; "referral", refers to the return of knowledge information to the requester, which may then itself interact with the DSA(s) identified in the knowledge information.

LDAP servers may be components of a Directory. A DSA may chain requests to an LDAP server using the LDAP protocol as specified in IETF RFC 4511. A DSA able to chain requests in this way is called an *LDAP requester*.

Uni-chaining or a referral interaction may result from a single request. Alternatively, the request may be decomposed into several subrequests prior to the interaction. Multi-chaining or referral interactions, or a mixture of the two, may result from a decomposed request. Two types of decomposition are defined: NSSR decomposition and request decomposition.

### 8.1 Decomposition of a request

#### 8.1.1 NSSR decomposition

NSSR decomposition is the process of preparing (semantically) identical requests ready for transfer (either sequentially or in parallel) to several subordinate directory servers as a result of encountering an NSSR during name resolution. Non-specific subordinate references do not hold the RDNs of the referenced subordinate naming contexts, so the referencing DSA is unable to tell which subordinate directory server holds which subordinate naming context(s). During name resolution, a DSA encountering NSSRs shall send a semantically identical request to each subordinate directory server (in the absence of shadowing). This may be done sequentially or in parallel. Typically, only one directory server will be able to continue with name resolution; the other DSAs will return a `serviceError` with problem `unableToProceed`, while other LDAP servers will return `noSuchObject`. In certain (rare) circumstances, it is possible that more than one DSA will continue with name resolution, giving rise to duplicate results.

#### 8.1.2 Request decomposition

Request decomposition, the other form of decomposing a request, is a process performed internally by a DSA prior to communication with one or more other directory servers. A request is decomposed into several, possibly different, subrequests such that each of the subrequests accomplishes a part of the original task. Request decomposition can be used only during operation evaluation of a List, Search or LDAP Search operation. After request decomposition, each of the subrequests may then be chained to other directory servers to continue the task, or a partial result (an embedded referral) may be returned to the requester. An example of the same subrequest being generated to different directory servers is when an entry has subordinate references and/or NSSRs that together reference more than one directory server. An example of different subrequests being generated to the same or different directory servers is when two different entries are encountered during a Search (subtree), and each has a subordinate reference.

### 8.2 Uni-chaining

This mode of interaction (depicted in Figure 2) may be used by one DSA to pass on a request to another directory server when the former has knowledge about naming contexts held by the latter. Uni-chaining may be used to contact a single DSA or LDAP server pointed to in a cross reference or a subordinate reference. In addition, a superior reference, supplier reference or a master reference may be used to contact a single DSA.

NOTE – In Figure 2, the order of interactions is defined by the numbers associated with the interaction lines.

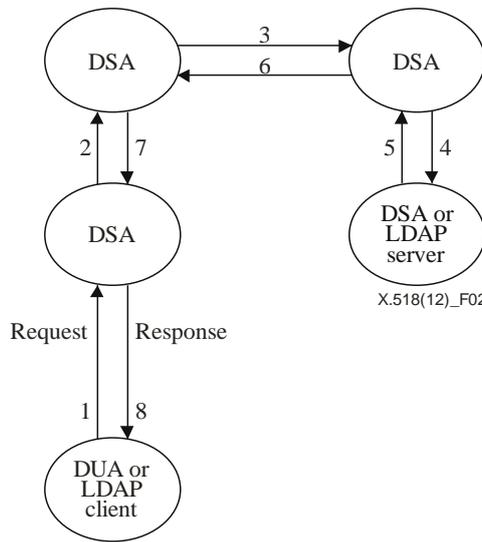


Figure 2 – Uni-chaining mode

### 8.3 Multi-chaining

This mode of interaction is used by a DSA for transferring several outgoing requests which have resulted from one incoming request, as a result of either request decomposition or NSSR decomposition.

#### 8.3.1 Parallel multi-chaining

With parallel multi-chaining, the DSA transfers several outgoing requests simultaneously (see Figure 3a). Whilst parallel multi-chaining may give improved performance, it may under certain circumstances, e.g., in the presence of shadowing, cause duplicate results to be received.

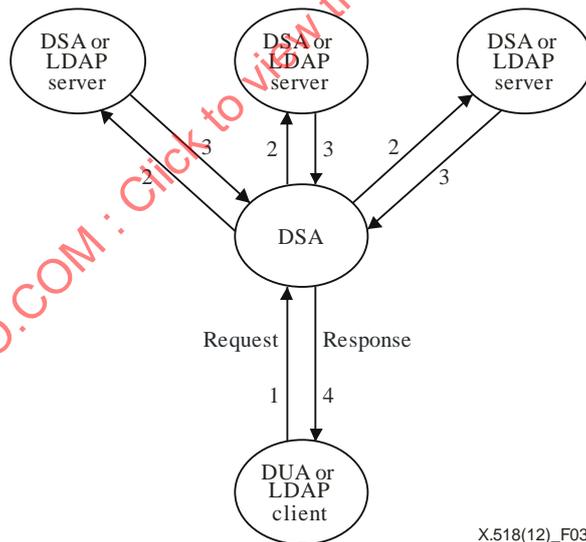
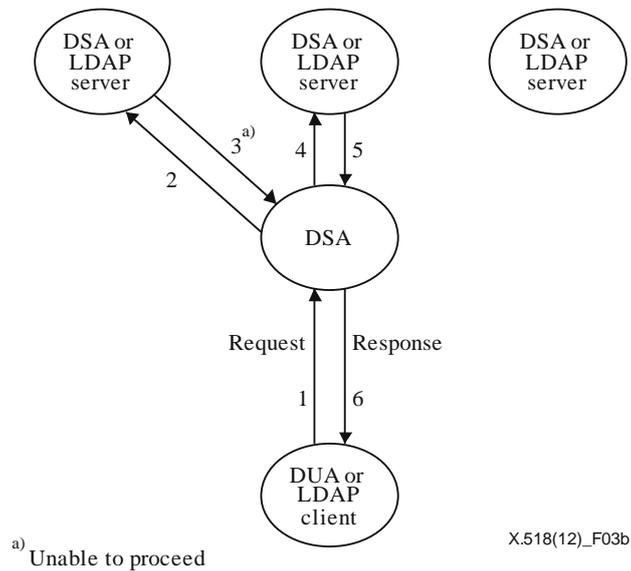


Figure 3a – Parallel multi-chaining

#### 8.3.2 Sequential multi-chaining

With sequential multi-chaining, the DSA transfers one outgoing request at a time and waits for the result or error of one request before sending the next (see Figure 3b). Whilst sequential multi-chaining may not be the quickest mode of interaction, it is unlikely that duplicate results will be received.

NOTE – A DSA may use a combination of parallel multi-chaining and sequential multi-chaining.



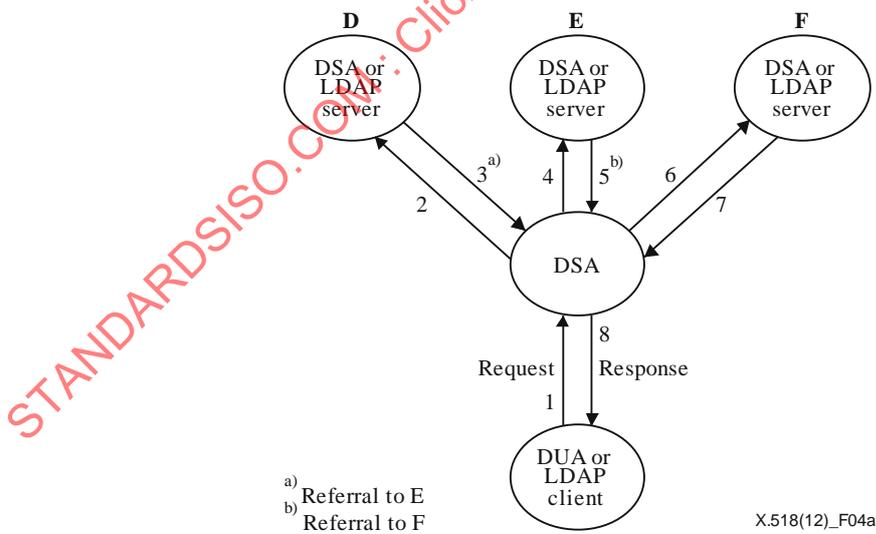
**Figure 3b – Sequential multi-chaining (as a result of NSSR decomposition)**

**8.4 Referral**

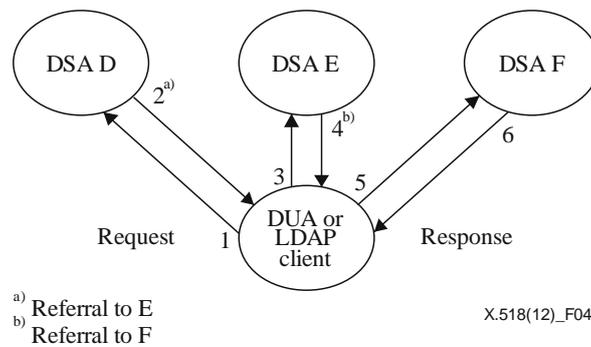
A referral (depicted in Figures 4a and 4b) is returned by a DSA in response to a request from a DUA, an LDAP client or another DSA. The referral may constitute the whole response (in which case it is categorized as an error) or just part of the response. An LDAP server may also return a referral as specified in IETF RFC 4511. A referral returned by a DSA contains a knowledge reference, which may be either a superior, subordinate, cross, non-specific subordinate, supplier, or master reference. A referral from an LDAP server is equivalent to a cross reference.

The DSA (Figure 4a) receiving the referral may use the knowledge reference contained therein, to subsequently chain or multi-cast (depending upon the type of reference) the original request to other directory servers. Alternatively, a DSA receiving a referral, may in turn pass the referral back in its response. A DUA or LDAP client (Figure 4b) receiving a referral may use it to contact one or more other DSAs to progress the request.

NOTE 1 – In Figures 4a and 4b, the order of interactions is defined by the numbers associated with the interaction lines.



**Figure 4a – Referral mode (DSA acts on referrals)**



**Figure 4b – Referral mode (DUA or LDAP client acts on referrals)**

NOTE 2 – In Figure 4b, a referral to an LDAP client may be to an LDAP server. However, this situation is outside the scope of this Directory Specification.

## 8.5 Mode determination

If a DSA cannot itself fully resolve a request, it shall chain the request (or a request formed by decomposing the original one), to another DSA or LDAP server, unless:

- a) chaining is prohibited by the requester or a bound DSA on behalf of an LDAP client via the **chainingProhibited** service control, in which case the DSA shall return a referral or a **serviceError** with problem **chainingRequired**; or
- b) the DSA has administrative, operational, or technical reasons for preferring not to chain, in which case the DSA shall return a referral.

NOTE 1 – A "technical reason" for not chaining is that the DSA identified in the knowledge reference does not support the DSP.

NOTE 2 – If the **localScope** service control is set, then the DSA (or DMD) shall either resolve the request or return an error.

NOTE 3 – If the user prefers referrals, the user should set **chainingProhibited**.

NOTE 4 – An LDAP server will always return a referral.

## SECTION 4 – DSA ABSTRACT SERVICE

**9 Overview of DSA abstract service**

The service of the Directory is fully described in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. When such a service is provided in a distributed environment, as modelled in clause 7, it can be regarded as being provided by means of a set of DSAs and zero or more LDAP servers. This is illustrated in Figure 1.

For each operation defined in the Directory service, a corresponding "chained" operation is defined in the DSA abstract service for use between DSAs cooperating in the accomplishment of that Directory service operation. Thus, a DSA receiving a Read operation from a DUA might require the assistance of another directory server (e.g., a DSA holding the target entry or a copy of it) to satisfy it, and so send that DSA a Chained Read operation.

The information types exchanged in the DSA abstract service are defined in clause 10. The operations and errors of the DSA abstract service are defined in clauses 11 to 13.

NOTE – Communication between a DSA (LDAP requester) and an LDAP server is outside the scope of DSA abstract service.

**10 Information types****10.1 Introduction**

This clause identifies, and in some cases defines, a number of information types which are subsequently used in the definition of the various operations of the DSA abstract service. The information types concerned are those which are common to more than one operation or which are sufficiently complex or self-contained to merit being defined separately from the operation which uses them.

Several of the information types used in the definition of the DSA abstract service are defined elsewhere. Clause 10.2 identifies these types and indicates the source of their definition. Clauses 10.3 to 10.10 each identifies and defines an information type.

**10.2 Information types defined elsewhere**

The following information types are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2:

(Attributes)

– **aliasedEntryName;**

(Data types)

– **DistinguishedName;**

– **Name;**

– **RelativeDistinguishedName.**

The following information types are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3:

(Operations)

– **abandon;**

(Errors)

– **abandoned;**

– **attributeError;**

– **nameError;**

– **securityError;**

– **serviceError;**

– **updateError.**

(Information Object Class)

– **OPTIONALLY-PROTECTED;**

(Data Type)

– **SecurityParameters.**

The following information type is defined in Rec. ITU-T X.520 | ISO/IEC 9594-6:

(Data Type)

- **PresentationAddress.**

### 10.3 Chaining arguments

The **ChainingArguments** shall be present in each chained operation, to convey to a DSA the information needed to successfully perform its part of the overall task:

```
ChainingArguments ::= SET {
  originator           [0] DistinguishedName OPTIONAL,
  targetObject        [1] DistinguishedName OPTIONAL,
  operationProgress    [2] OperationProgress
                        DEFAULT {nameResolutionPhase notStarted},
  traceInformation    [3] TraceInformation,
  aliasDereferenced   [4] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  aliasedRDNs         [5] INTEGER OPTIONAL,
  returnCrossRefs     [6] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  referenceType       [7] ReferenceType DEFAULT superior,
  info                [8] DomainInfo OPTIONAL,
  timeLimit           [9] Time OPTIONAL,
  securityParameters [10] SecurityParameters DEFAULT {},
  entryOnly           [11] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  uniqueIdentifier    [12] UniqueIdentifier OPTIONAL,
  authenticationLevel [13] AuthenticationLevel OPTIONAL,
  exclusions          [14] Exclusions OPTIONAL,
  excludeShadows     [15] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  nameResolveOnMaster [16] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  operationIdentifier [17] INTEGER OPTIONAL,
  searchRuleId        [18] SearchRuleId OPTIONAL,
  chainedRelaxation   [19] MRMapping OPTIONAL,
  relatedEntry        [20] INTEGER OPTIONAL,
  dspPaging           [21] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  --                  [22] Not to be used
  --                  [23] Not to be used
  excludeWriteableCopies [24] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  ... }
```

```
Time ::= CHOICE {
  utcTime      UTCTime,
  generalizedTime GeneralizedTime,
  ... }
```

```
DomainInfo ::= ABSTRACT-SYNTAX.&Type
```

The various components have the following meaning:

- a) The **originator** component need not be present if the **requester** component is present in **CommonArguments** value, if the **certification-path** component is present in the **SecurityParameters** value, or if requester information is only made available in the request, but not during the Bind operation. It shall not be present if requester information is not available. It shall be present, if requester information is only available as the result of the Bind operation.
- b) The **targetObject** component shall convey the name of the object whose directory entry is being routed to. The role of this object depends on the particular operation concerned: it may be the object whose entry is to be operated on, or which is to be the base object for a request or subrequest involving multiple objects (e.g., **chainedList** or **chainedSearch**). This component need not be present if it has the same value as the object or base object parameter in the chained operation, in which case its implied value is that value. Otherwise, it shall be present.
- c) The **operationProgress** component is used to inform the DSA of the progress of the operation, and hence of the role which it is expected to play in its overall performance. The information conveyed in this component is specified in clause 10.5. The default value indicates that the name resolution has not started.
- d) The **traceInformation** component shall be used to prevent looping among DSAs when chaining is in operation. A DSA shall add a new element to trace information prior to chaining an operation to another DSA. On being requested to perform an operation, a DSA shall check, by examination of the trace information, that the operation has not formed a loop. The information conveyed in this component is specified in clause 10.6.

- e) The **aliasDereferenced** component is a **BOOLEAN** value which shall be used to indicate whether or not one or more alias entries have so far been encountered and dereferenced during the course of distributed name resolution. The default value of **FALSE** indicates that no alias entry has been dereferenced.
- f) The **aliasedRDNs** component indicates how many of the RDNs of the **targetObject** component have been generated from the **aliasedEntryName** attributes of one (or more) alias entries. The integer value is set whenever an alias entry is encountered and dereferenced. This component shall be present if the **aliasDereferenced** component is **TRUE**. Otherwise, it shall be absent.

NOTE – This component is provided for compatibility with implementations based on Rec. CCITT X.518 (1988) | ISO/IEC 9594-4:1990. DUAs (and DSAs) implemented according to later editions of the Directory Specifications shall always omit this parameter from the **CommonArguments** of a subsequent request. In this way, the Directory will not signal an error if aliases dereference to further aliases.

- g) The **returnCrossRefs** component is a Boolean value which indicates whether or not knowledge references, used during the course of performing a distributed operation, are requested to be passed back to the initial DSA as cross references, along with a result or referral. The default value of **FALSE** indicates that such knowledge references shall not be returned.
- h) The **referenceType** component, when present, shall indicate, to the DSA being asked to perform the operation, what type of knowledge was used to route the request to it. The DSA may therefore be able to detect errors in the knowledge held by the invoker. If such an error is detected, it shall be indicated by a **serviceError** with problem **invalidReference**. **ReferenceType** is specified fully in clause 10.7. If the **referenceType** is absent, then the value **superior** shall be assumed.
- i) The **info** component is used to convey DMD-specific information among DSAs which are involved in the processing of a common request. This component is of type **DomainInfo**, which is of unrestricted type:
- j) The **timeLimit** component, if present, shall indicate the time by which the operation is to be completed (see clause 16.1.4.1). Before a value of **Time** is used in any comparison operation and if the syntax of **Time** has been chosen as the **UTCTime** type, the value of the two-digit year field shall be rationalized into a four-digit year value as follows:
  - If the 2-digit value is 00 to 49 inclusive, the value shall have 2000 added to it.
  - If the 2-digit value is 50 to 99 inclusive, the value shall have 1900 added to it.

NOTE 3 – The use of **GeneralizedTime** may prevent interworking with implementations unaware of the possibility of choosing either **UTCTime** or **GeneralizedTime**. It is the responsibility of those specifying the domains in which this Directory Specification will be used, e.g., profiling groups, as to when the **GeneralizedTime** may be used. In no case shall **UTCTime** be used for representing dates beyond 2049.

- k) The **SecurityParameters** data type is specified in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. Its absence is deemed equivalent to there being an empty set of security parameters.
- l) The **entryOnly** component shall be set to **TRUE** if the original operation was a Search with the **subset** argument set to **oneLevel**, and an alias entry was encountered as an immediate subordinate of the **baseObject**. The DSA which successfully performs name resolution on the **targetObject** name shall perform object evaluation on only the named entry.
- m) **uniqueIdentifier** component is optionally supplied when it is required to confirm the requester name. The **UniqueIdentifier** data type is described in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2.
- n) **authenticationLevel** component, when present, shall indicate the authentication level as established during the Bind operation. If this component is absent, a performing DSA shall assume that there has been no authentication (anonymous Bind). This component should be present whenever the requester has been authenticated. The **AuthenticationLevel** data type is described in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2.
- o) The **exclusions** component has significance only for Search operations; it shall indicate, if present, which subtrees of entries subordinate to the **targetObject** shall be excluded from the result of the Search operation (see clause 10.10).
- p) The **excludeShadows** component has significance only for Search, LDAP Search and List operations; it indicates that the search shall be applied to entries and not to entry copies. If a request is received by an LDAP requester for forwarding it to an LDAP server, the request shall not be forwarded if the referenced naming context within the LDAP server is of **category shadow** (see clause 10.8). This optional component may be used by a DSA as one way to avoid the receipt of duplicate results (see clause 20.1).

- q) The **nameResolveOnMaster** component only has significance during name resolution, and is only set if NSSRs have been encountered. If set to **TRUE**, it signals that subsequent name resolution, i.e., matching the remaining RDNs from **nextRDNTToBeResolved**, shall not employ entry copy information, including writeable copies in a multi-master LDAP server implementation; subsequent resolution of each remaining RDN shall be done in the master DSA for the entry identified by that RDN (see clause 20.1).
- r) The **operationIdentifier** component facilitates the correlation of DAP operations with subsequent related DSP operations as well as with results. It is assigned by the DSA that first receives a DAP request or is copied from the chaining arguments of DSP requests that require further chaining. The DSA assigning the **operationIdentifier** shall not reuse the assigned integer for a sufficiently long time period. The correlation of related DAP and DSP requests and results are facilitated by DSA logging, for each operation and result, the **operationIdentifier** together with the name of the DSA that assigned it (the first DSA in **traceInformation** on a chained request). Such correlation may be useful for the purposes of logging, auditing, charging and settlements, etc.
- s) The **searchRuleId** component, when present, shall convey the unique identity of a search-rule. It is included by the DSA performing the initial **Search procedure (I)** in case this procedure starts within a service-specific administrative area and the search operation is progressed to other DSAs either when progressing down the DIT, when following aliases or when following hierarchical group pointers.
- t) The **chainedRelaxation** component enables relaxation to be carried out in a distributed manner for chained Search operations. If a DSA received a chained search operation, and supports relaxation policies, it can use the supplied **chainedRelaxation** component in place of any other relaxation policy that it might implement, thereby enabling relaxation to be coordinated among the DSAs that potentially return search results.
- u) The **relatedEntry** element shall be present whenever the receiving DSA is required to resolve related entries. When present, the receiving DSA shall respond *only* to the specific related entry element specified by the **relatedEntry** value in **joinAttributes** of the **SearchArgument**. Thus, a **relatedEntry** value of zero shall select the first element in the **joinAttributes** sequence the **SearchArgument**. The value shall never exceed one less than the number of elements in the **joinAttributes** component of **SearchArgument**. The absence of the **relatedEntry** element in the **ChainingArguments** of a DSP operation specifying related entries shall indicate that the distributed operation being chained on is the **base** search, and not the related entry part of the search.

If a DSA to which chaining is being carried out is required to handle both normal search results and related-entry results, this shall be done by sending the DSA two distinct DSP operations.

When the **relatedEntry** element is present, the following special rules shall apply:

- in evaluating the **infoTypes** subcomponent of **selection** component of **SearchArgument**, **infoTypes** shall be taken as having the value **attributeTypesAndValues**, whatever the originally specified value;
- all attributes specified in any **joinAtt** component of **JoinAttPair** shall be included in the selection, whether or not previously included there;
- the DSA coordinating related entry results shall omit values and unspecified arguments, so as to make the result conform with the original user request.

The **relatedEntry** argument shall be passed on in consequent outgoing **ChainingArguments** by a DSA that supports related entries.

- v) The **dspPaging** component may be used to request DSP paging. If the bound DSA is different from the initial performer (see clause 15.5.4) and the bound DSA supports DSP paged results, it may set this component to **TRUE** to instruct the initial performer to provide DSP paged results. If this component is **FALSE** (default), the initial performer shall not perform DSP paged results. An initial performer that supports DSP paged results shall not forward this component to DSA(s) to which it is sending subrequests.
- w) The **excludeWriteableCopies** component has significance only for an LDAP requester receiving a Search, LDAP search and List operation to be forwarded to an LDAP server. The request shall not be forwarded if the referenced naming context within the LDAP server is of **category writeableCopy** (see clause 10.8). This optional component may be used by a DSA as one way to avoid the receipt of duplicate results (see clause 20.1).

## 10.4 Chaining results

The **ChainingResults** are present in the result of each operation and provide feedback to the DSA which invoked the operation.

```

ChainingResults ::= SET {
    info [0] DomainInfo OPTIONAL,
    crossReferences [1] SEQUENCE SIZE (1..MAX) OF CrossReference OPTIONAL,
    securityParameters [2] SecurityParameters DEFAULT {},
    alreadySearched [3] Exclusions OPTIONAL,
    ... }

```

```

CrossReference ::= SET {
    contextPrefix [0] DistinguishedName,
    accessPoint [1] AccessPointInformation,
    ... }

```

The various components have the following meaning:

- a) The **info** component, when present, shall be used to convey DMD-specific information among DSAs which are involved in the processing of a common request. This component is of type **DomainInfo**, which is of unrestricted type.
- b) The **crossReferences** component shall not be present in the **ChainingResults** unless the **returnCrossRefs** component of the corresponding request had the value **TRUE**. This component consists of a sequence of **CrossReference** items, each of which contains a **contextPrefix** and an **accessPoint** descriptor (see clause 10.8).

A **CrossReference** may be added by a DSA when it matches part of the **targetObject** argument of an operation with one of its context prefixes. The administrative authority of a DSA may have a policy not to return such knowledge, and will, in this case, not add an item to the sequence.

- c) The **SecurityParameters** data type is specified in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. The absence of the **securityParameters** component is deemed equivalent to there being an empty set of security parameters.
- d) The **alreadySearched** component, if present, shall indicate which subordinate RDNs subordinate to the **targetObject** have been processed as part of a chained Search operation and therefore shall be excluded in a subsequent subrequest.

## 10.5 Operation progress

An **OperationProgress** value describes the state of progress in the performance of an operation which several DSAs shall participate in.

```

OperationProgress ::= SET {
    nameResolutionPhase [0] ENUMERATED {
        notStarted (1),
        proceeding (2),
        completed (3),
        ... },
    nextRDNTToBeResolved [1] INTEGER OPTIONAL,
    ... }

```

The various components have the following meaning:

- a) The **nameResolutionPhase** component shall indicate which phase has been reached in handling the **targetObject** name of an operation. Where this indicates that name resolution has **notStarted**, then a DSA has not hitherto been reached with a naming context containing the initial RDN(s) of the name. If name resolution is **proceeding**, then the initial part of the name has been recognized, although the DSA holding the target object has not yet been reached. The **nextRDNTToBeResolved** indicates how much of the name has already been recognized (see item b). If name resolution is **completed**, then the DSA holding the target object has been reached, and performance of the operation proper is proceeding.
- b) The **nextRDNTToBeResolved**, when present, shall indicate to the DSA which of the RDNs in the **targetObject** name is the next to be resolved. It takes the form of an integer in the range one to the number of RDNs in the name. This component shall be absent if the **nameResolutionPhase** component does not have the value **proceeding**.

## 10.6 Trace information

A **TraceInformation** value carries forward a record of the DSAs that have been involved in the performance of an operation. It is used to detect the existence of, or avoid, loops that might arise from inconsistent knowledge or from the presence of alias loops in the DIT.

**TraceInformation** ::= SEQUENCE OF **TraceItem**

```
TraceItem ::= SET {
  dsa [0] Name,
  targetObject [1] Name OPTIONAL,
  operationProgress [2] OperationProgress,
  ... }
```

Each DSA, which is propagating an operation to another DSA, shall add a new **TraceItem** to the end of the **TraceInformation**. Each such **TraceItem** value has the following components:

- a) the **dsa** component shall hold the name of the DSA which is adding the item;
- b) the **targetObject** component, when present, shall be the value received on the **targetObject** component of the **ChainingArguments** value of the incoming request. This parameter shall be omitted if:
  - the request being chained came from a DUA, in which case its implied value is the **object** or **baseObject** in the DAP operation;
  - the request is received from an LDAP client, in which case its implied value is the **object** or **baseObject** of the LDAP request; or
  - if its value is the same as the (actual or implied) **targetObject** in the **ChainingArgument** of the outgoing request;
- c) the **operationProgress** component shall have a value determined as follows:
  - If the incoming request is received from a DUA, the value shall be taken from the **operationProgress** component of the **CommonArguments** of the DAP request. If this component is absent on the DAP request, the default value **notStarted** shall be used.
  - If the incoming request is received from an LDAP client, the value **notStarted** shall be used.
  - If the incoming request is received from a DSA, the value shall be taken from the **operationProgress** component of the **ChainedArguments** value. If this component is absent on the request, the default value **notStarted** shall be used.

## 10.7 Reference type

A **ReferenceType** value indicates one of the various kinds of references defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2.

```
ReferenceType ::= ENUMERATED {
  superior (1),
  subordinate (2),
  cross (3),
  nonSpecificSubordinate (4),
  supplier (5),
  master (6),
  immediateSuperior (7),
  self (8),
  ditBridge (9),
  ... }
```

## 10.8 Access point information

There are three types of access points:

```
AccessPoint ::= SET {
  ae-title [0] Name,
  address [1] PresentationAddress,
  protocolInformation [2] SET SIZE (1..MAX) OF ProtocolInformation OPTIONAL,
  -- [6] Not to be used
  ... }
```

```

MasterOrShadowAccessPoint ::= SET {
  COMPONENTS OF AccessPoint,
  category [3] ENUMERATED {
    master (0),
    shadow (1),
    writeableCopy (2),
    ... } DEFAULT master,
  chainingRequired [5] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  ... }

```

```

MasterAndShadowAccessPoints ::= SET SIZE (1..MAX) OF MasterOrShadowAccessPoint

```

- a) An **AccessPoint** value identifies a particular point at which access to the Directory, specifically to a DSA or LDAP server, can occur. When referring to a DSA, the access point shall have a **Name**, that of the DSA concerned. It shall have a **PresentationAddress** to be used in communications to that DSA or LDAP server (see clause 11 of Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5 for additional information about NSAP formats). When referring to a DSA using IDM protocol, **pSelector**, **sSelector** and **tSelector** components shall be ignored. When referring to an LDAP server, the **ae-title**, **protocolInformation**, **pSelector**, **sSelector** and **tSelector** components shall be ignored (see clause 11.3 of Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5).
- b) A **MasterOrShadowAccessPoint** value identifies an access point to the Directory. The **category**, either **master** or **shadow**, of the access point is dependent upon whether it points to a naming context or to a commonly usable replicated area. The **category writeableCopy** is only applicable if the access point is for an LDAP server with writeable copy entries. The **chainingRequired** component indicates whether chaining is required for that DSA, i.e., a referral shall not be returned for that DSA.
- c) A **MasterAndShadowAccessPoints** value identifies a set of access points to the Directory, i.e., a set of related Directory servers. These access points share the property that each refers to a DSA or LDAP server holding entry information from a common naming context (or a common set of naming contexts mastered in one DSA when the value is a value of the **nonSpecificKnowledge** attribute). A **MasterAndShadowAccessPoints** value indicates the **category** of each **AccessPoint** value it contains. The access point of the master DSA or LDAP server of the naming context need not be included in the set.

NOTE – Implementors should recognize that it is possible for an LDAP server, even if identified as **shadow**, to update entries in response to an LDAP update operation that it receives.

An **AccessPointInformation** value identifies one or more access points to the Directory.

```

AccessPointInformation ::= SET {
  COMPONENTS OF MasterOrShadowAccessPoint,
  additionalPoints [4] MasterAndShadowAccessPoints OPTIONAL,
  ... }

```

In the case of DSAs based on Rec. CCITT X.518 (1988) | ISO/IEC 9594-4:1990 producing an **AccessPointInformation** value, the optional component of the set is absent. In the case of DSAs based on Rec. CCITT X.518 (1988) | ISO/IEC 9594-4:1990 interpreting an **AccessPointInformation** value, any **MasterAndShadowAccessPoints** value present is ignored.

In the case of DSAs based on Rec. ITU-T X.518 (1993) | ISO/IEC 9594-4:1995 or later editions, the **MasterOrShadowAccessPoint** value component produced for an **AccessPointInformation** value may be of category **master** or **shadow**, as determined by the knowledge selection procedure of the DSA producing the value. It may be viewed as a suggested access point provided by the DSA generating the value to the DSA receiving it. A **MasterAndShadowAccessPoints** value may optionally also be produced for an **AccessPointInformation** value. This constitutes additional information which may be employed by the receiving DSA's knowledge selection procedure to determine an alternative access point.

## 10.9 DIT bridge knowledge.

A **DitBridgeKnowledge** value identifies a particular point at which access to another DIT, specifically to a DSA or an LDAP server, can occur. **DitBridgeKnowledge** specifies an access point at which that DSA or LDAP server may be accessed.

```

DitBridgeKnowledge ::= SEQUENCE {
  domainLocalID UnboundedDirectoryString OPTIONAL,
  accessPoints MasterAndShadowAccessPoints,
  ... }

```

`domainLocalID` contains a readable description identifying the DIT included in the reference.

## 10.10 Exclusions

As defined in clause 10.3, the **exclusions** component of **ChainingArguments** is used to limit the scope of a Search operation by identifying a number of entries subordinate to the target object which, together with all of their subordinates, shall not be included in the processing of a Search operation. The **exclusion** component is defined as a value of the ASN.1 type **Exclusions**.

**Exclusions ::= SET SIZE (1..MAX) OF RDNSequence**

Each **RDNSequence** value in the **Exclusions** set should identify the context prefix of a naming context subordinate to the target object. If a DSA receives a **search** request with an **RDNSequence** value that does not conform to this constraint, the DSA may ignore that value. The **RDNSequence** is relative to the target object, and is not the distinguished name of the context prefix.

**Exclusions** can, besides being part of a user request, be used by DSAs to minimize duplicate information returned from Search subrequests performed in the presence of shadowed information.

Figure 5 illustrates an example of the use of **Exclusions**. In this example, a DSA holds two replicated areas, one beneath the other. One starts with context prefix X, the other with context prefix C. An entry copy at Y has three subordinate references to naming contexts, A, B and C.

If, as an example, a subtree Search is performed in this DSA, starting with a base object within naming context X, the DSA can provide information from replicated areas X and C. The information from naming contexts A and B has to be provided via the subordinate references. When performing request decomposition, continuation references, to be used in either **partialResults** or chaining, will specify Y as the target object and C as a single element of an **Exclusions** set.

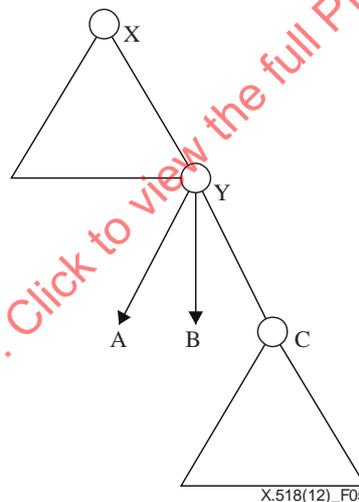


Figure 5 – Exclusions

## 10.11 Continuation reference

A **ContinuationReference** describes how the performance of all or part of an operation can be continued at one or more different directory servers. It is typically returned as a referral when the DSA involved is unable or unwilling to propagate the request itself.

```
ContinuationReference ::= SET {
  targetObject          [0] Name,
  aliasedRDNs           [1] INTEGER OPTIONAL,
  operationProgress     [2] OperationProgress,
  rdnsResolved          [3] INTEGER OPTIONAL,
  referenceType         [4] ReferenceType,
  accessPoints          [5] SET OF AccessPointInformation,
  entryOnly             [6] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  exclusions            [7] Exclusions OPTIONAL,
  returnToDUA          [8] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  nameResolveOnMaster  [9] BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  ... }
```

The various components have the following meaning:

- a) The **targetObject** component shall indicate the name which is proposed to be used in continuing the operation. This might be different from the name received in **targetObject** of the incoming request if, for example, an alias has been dereferenced, or the base object in a search has been located.
- b) The **aliasedRDNs** component indicates how many (if any) of the RDNs in the target object name have been produced by dereferencing an alias. The argument is only present if an alias has been dereferenced.  
NOTE – This component is provided for backward compatibility with implementations based on Rec. CCITT X.5\*\* (1988) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:1990.  
This component shall not be included in **CommonArguments** when implementing according to Rec. ITU-T X.5\*\* (1993) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:1995 or later editions of these Directory Specifications.
- c) The **operationProgress** shall indicate the amount of name resolution which has been achieved, and which will govern the further performance of the operation by the DSAs named, should the DSA or DUA receiving the **ContinuationReference** wish to follow it up.
- d) The **rdnsResolved** component value (which need only be present if some of the RDNs in the name have not been the subject of full name resolution, but have been assumed to be correct from a cross reference) shall indicate how many RDNs have actually been resolved, using internal references only.
- e) The **referenceType** component shall indicate what type of knowledge was used in generating this continuation.
- f) The **accessPoints** component shall indicate the access points which are to be contacted to achieve this continuation. Only where non-specific subordinate references are involved can there be more than one **AccessPointInformation** item.
- g) The **entryOnly** component shall be set to **TRUE** if the original operation was a search, with the **subset** argument set to **oneLevel**, and an alias entry was encountered as an immediate subordinate of the **baseObject**. The DSA which successfully performs name resolution on the **targetObject** name shall perform object evaluation on only the named entry. If the original operation was not a search, with the **subset** argument set to **oneLevel**, this component shall be absent or take the value **FALSE**.
- h) The **exclusions** component, when present, shall identify a set of subordinate naming contexts that should not be explored by the receiving DSA.
- i) The **returnToDUA** element is optionally supplied when the DSA creating the continuation reference wishes to indicate that it is unwilling to return information via an intermediate DSA (e.g., for security reasons), and wishes to indicate that information may be directly available via an operation over a DAP or LDAP between the originating DUA or LDAP client and the DSA. When **returnToDUA** is set to **TRUE**, **referenceType** may be set to **self**.
- j) The **nameResolveOnMaster** element is optionally supplied when the DSA creating the continuation reference has encountered NSSRs. If set to **TRUE**, it signals that subsequent name resolution, i.e., matching the remaining RDNs from **nextRDNTToBeResolved**, shall not employ entry copy information including writeable copies in a multi-master LDAP server implementation; subsequent resolution of each remaining RDN shall be done in the master DSA for the entry identified by that RDN (see clause 20.1).

## 11 Bind and Unbind

DSA Bind and DSA Unbind operations, respectively, are used by a DSA at the beginning and at the end of a period of accessing another DSA. The binding or unbinding of a DSP application-association shall not, of itself, cause the loss of any distributed paged results which were requested in the course of the application-association.

### 11.1 DSA Bind

#### 11.1.1 DSA Bind syntax

A **dSABind** operation is used to begin a period of cooperation between two DSAs providing the directory service.

```

dSABind OPERATION ::= {
    ARGUMENT      DSABindArgument
    RESULT        DSABindResult
    ERRORS        { directoryBindError } }

DSABindArgument ::= SET {
    credentials [0] DSACredentials OPTIONAL,

```

```
versions      [1] Versions DEFAULT {v1} }
```

```
DSACredentials ::= CHOICE {
  simple          [0] SimpleCredentials,
  strong          [1] StrongCredentials,
  externalProcedure [2] EXTERNAL,
  spkm           [3] SpkmCredentials }
```

```
DSABindResult ::= DSABindArgument
```

### 11.1.2 DSA Bind arguments

The components of the **DSABindArgument** are identical to their counterparts in the **DirectoryBind** (see Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3) with the following differences:

- The **Credentials** of the **DirectoryBindArgument** allows information identifying the AE-Title of the initiating DSA to be sent to the responding DSA. The AE-Title shall be in the form of a Directory Distinguished Name.
- The **SaslCredentials** shall not be included in the **Credentials**.
- The **Credentials** of the **DirectoryBindResult** allows information identifying the AE-Title of the responding DSA to be sent to the initiating DSA. The AE-Title shall be in the form of a Distinguished Name.

### 11.1.3 DSA Bind results

The components of the **DSABindResult** are identical to their counterparts in the **DirectoryBindResult** (see Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3) with the following differences:

- The **Credentials** of the **DirectoryBindResult** allows information identifying the AE-Title of the responding DSA to be sent to the initiating DSA. The AE-Title shall be in the form of a Distinguished Name.
- The **SaslCredentials** shall not be included in the **Credentials**.

### 11.1.4 DSA Bind errors

Should the Bind request fail, a Bind error shall be returned. If the Bind request was either using strong authentication or SPKM credentials are supplied, then the Bind responder may sign the error parameters.

The **versions** parameter of the **dSABindError** indicates which versions are supported by the responding DSA.

The **SecurityParameters** components (see clause 7.10 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3) shall be included if the error is to be signed.

A **securityError** or **serviceError** shall be supplied as follows:

```
securityError  inappropriateAuthentication
               invalidCredentials
               blockedCredentials

serviceError   unavailable
```

## 11.2 DSA Unbind

The unbinding at the end of a period of cooperation between two DSAs providing the Directory service is for the OSI environment specified in clauses 7.6.4 and 7.6.5 of Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5 and for the TCP/IP environment in clause 9.2.2 of Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5.

## 12 Chained operations

For each of the operations used to access the directory abstract service, there is an operation used between cooperating DSAs in a one-to-one correspondence. The names of the operations have been chosen to reflect that correspondence by prefixing the names of operations used between cooperating DSAs with the term "Chained".

The arguments, results and errors of the chained operations are, with one exception, formed systematically from the arguments, results and errors of the corresponding operations in the Directory abstract service (as specified in clause 12.1). The one exception is the Chained Abandon operation, which is syntactically equivalent to its Directory service counterpart (specified in clause 12.2).

## 12.1 Chained operations

A DSA, having received an operation from a DUA, having created an LDAP Transport operation resulting from a received request from an LDAP client, or having created a Linked LDAP operation resulting from a partial result from an LDAP server, shall construct a chained form of that operation if it is to be propagated to another DSA. A DSA, having received a chained form of an operation, may also elect to chain it to another DSA. The DSA invoking a chained form of an operation may sign the argument of the operation; the DSA performing the operation, if so requested, may sign the result or error returned by the responder of the operation.

The chained form of an operation is specified using the parameterized type `chained { }`.

```

chained{OPERATION:operation} OPERATION ::= {
  ARGUMENT          OPTIONALLY-PROTECTED {SET {
    chainedArgument    ChainingArguments,
    argument          [0] operation.&ArgumentType } }
  RESULT OPTIONALLY-PROTECTED {SET {
    chainedResult     ChainingResults,
    result            [0] operation.&ResultType} }
  ERRORS
    {operation.&Errors EXCEPT referral | dsaReferral}
  CODE
    operation.&operationCode }

```

NOTE 1 – The operations of the Directory abstract service which may be used as the actual parameter of `chained { }` include the `abandoned` error. The presence of this error among the set of possible errors of a chained operation reflects the possibility discussed in clause 12.2, that a `chainedAbandon` can be generated for a `chainedModify` operation when a linked association fails.

NOTE 2 – The definitive specification of the DSA abstract service in Annex A applies this parameterized type to construct all the chained operations of the abstract service.

The argument of the derived operation has the components:

- a) `chainedArgument` – This is a value of `ChainingArguments` that contains the information, supplementing the information provided in the DAP argument. This additional information is needed in order for the receiving DSA to handle the operation properly. This data type is defined in clause 10.3.
- b) `argument` – This is a value `operation.&Argument` and consists of the original DAP argument, as specified in the appropriate clause of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

Should the request succeed, the result of the derived operation has the components:

- a) `chainedResult` – This is a value of `ChainingResults` which contains that information, over and above that to be supplied in the DAP result, which may be needed by previous DSAs in a chain. This information type is defined in clause 10.4.
- b) `result` – This is a value `operation.&Result` and consists of the result which is being returned by the performer of this operation, and which is intended to be passed back in the result to the requester. This information is as specified in the appropriate clause of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

Should the request fail, one of the errors of the set `operation.&Errors` will be returned, except that `dsaReferral` is returned instead of `referral`. The set of errors, which may be reported, is as described for the corresponding operation in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. The error `dsaReferral` is described in clause 13.2.

## 12.2 Chained Abandon operation

A `chainedAbandon` request is used by one DSA to indicate to another that it is no longer interested in having a previously invoked distributed operation performed. This may be for any number of reasons, of which the following are examples:

- the operation which led to the DSA originally chaining has itself been abandoned, or has implicitly been aborted by the breakdown of an application-association;
- the DSA has obtained the necessary information in another way, e.g., from a faster responding DSA involved in the parallel multi-chaining.

A DSA is never obliged to issue a `chainedAbandon` request, or indeed to actually abandon an operation if requested to do so.

If the Chained Abandon operation actually succeeds in stopping the performance of an operation, then a result will be returned, and the subject operation will return an `abandoned` error. If the `chainedAbandon` does not succeed in stopping the operation, then it will return an `abandonFailed` error itself.

A DSA may also issue an `AbandonRequest` to an LDAP server under the same conditions as above.

### 12.3 Chained operations and protocol version

Operations which require a protocol version greater than v1 (such as the **modifyEntry** operation with certain arguments) or which return different results when used with a protocol version greater than v1 (such as **modifyEntry** with a signed argument) shall only be chained on application-associations with the same or a greater version number than that used to convey the request.

## 13 Chained errors

### 13.1 Introduction

For the most part, the same errors can be returned in the DSA abstract service which can be returned in the directory abstract service. The exceptions are that the **dsaReferral** "error" is returned (see clause 13.2), instead of **referral**, and the following service problems have the same abstract syntax but different semantics:

- a) **serviceError** with problem **invalidReference** – The DSA returning this error detected an error in the calling DSA's knowledge as specified in the **referenceType** chaining argument.
- b) **serviceError** with problem **loopDetected** – The DSA returning this error detected a loop in the knowledge information in the Directory.

The precedence of the errors which may occur is as for their precedence in the directory abstract service, as specified in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

If an error occurs during a chained operation, the responding DSA may sign the error returned.

### 13.2 DSA referral

The **dsaReferral** error shall be generated by a DSA when, for whatever reason, it does not wish to continue performing an operation by chaining the operation to one or more other directory servers. The circumstances where it may return a referral are described in clause 8.3.

```

dsaReferral ERROR ::= {
  PARAMETER          OPTIONALY-PROTECTED ( DsaReferralData )
  CODE               id-errcode-dsaReferral }

DsaReferralData ::= SET {
  reference          [0] ContinuationReference,
  contextPrefix     [1] DistinguishedName OPTIONAL,
  ...,
  ...,
  COMPONENTS OF    CommonResults }

```

The various components of **DsaReferralData** data type have the following meaning:

- a) The **reference** component contains the information needed by the invoker to propagate an appropriate further request, perhaps to another DSA or to an LDAP server. The **ContinuationReference** data type is specified in clause 10.11.
- b) The **contextPrefix** component may optionally be included if the **returnCrossRefs** component of the **ChainingArguments** for this operation had the value **TRUE**, and the referral is being based upon a subordinate or cross-reference. Otherwise, it shall be absent. The administrative authority of any DSA will decide which knowledge references, if any, can be returned in this manner (the others, for example, may be confidential to that DSA).

The information provided can optionally be qualified by the use of the **notification** component of **CommonResults**.

## SECTION 5 – DISTRIBUTED PROCEDURES

**14 Introduction****14.1 Scope and limits**

This clause specifies the procedures for distributed operation that are performed by DSAs. Each DSA individually performs the procedures described below; the collective action of all DSAs produces the full set of services provided to users of the Directory.

**14.2 Conformance**

The description of DSA procedures in this section is based on the models in clauses 8 and 9 of Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2 and clauses 7 and 8 of this Directory Specification. The flow charts and their corresponding textual descriptions are one of the means of mapping a given set of external (DAP, LDAP and/or DSP) inputs to a DSA into one or more external outputs (i.e., a result, error, referral, chained requests or LDAP request) produced by that DSA, depending on the particular DSA information tree held by that DSA.

It is probable that the Directory will be distributed across DSAs implemented according to different editions of these Directory Specifications. The DUA or LDAP client initiating the request will be unaware as to which edition the DSA or DSAs satisfying the DUA's or LDAP client's request will have been implemented. Therefore to allow operation in such a heterogeneous environment, a DSA shall be implemented according to the rules of extensibility defined in clause 12 of Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5.

A DSA implementation shall be functionally equivalent to the external behaviour specified by the procedures described here. The algorithms used by a particular DSA implementation to derive the correct output(s) from the given inputs and DSA information tree held are not standardized.

NOTE – The flowcharts which accompany the procedures are intended to be used as aids towards understanding the procedures. They are not to be considered as being a precise alternative to the textual descriptions. Where there is a disparity between the textual description and the flowchart for a particular procedure, it is intended that the textual description take precedence.

**14.2.1 Interaction involving a DSA based on Rec. CCITT X.5\*\* (1988) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:1990**

If the modify operations evaluate across DSA boundaries (i.e., **addEntry** with **TargetSystem**, **Remove** or **Rename** a context prefix), then this Directory Specification only specifies how two DSAs when implemented accordingly to Rec. ITU-T X.5\*\* (1993) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:1995 or later edition shall behave. The interaction between two DSAs based on Rec. CCITT X.5\*\* (1988) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:1990, or between a DSA based on Rec. CCITT X.5\*\* (1988) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:1990 and a DSA based on Rec. ITU-T X.5\*\* (1993) | ISO/IEC 9594-\*:1995 or a later edition, is outside the scope of these Directory Specifications. When mixed edition DSAs have a hierarchical operational binding, knowledge of each other's edition may allow a consistent error to be given to the user.

**14.3 Conceptual model**

The complexity of the Directory's distributed operation gives rise to a need for conceptual modelling using both narrative and pictorial descriptive techniques. However, neither the narrative nor the diagrams should be construed as a formal description of distributed directory operation.

**14.4 Individual and cooperative operation of DSAs**

The model views DSA operation from two separate perspectives, which, taken together, provide a complete, operational picture of the Directory.

- a) **DSA-centred perspective** – In this perspective, the set of procedures that support the Directory is described from the viewpoint of a single DSA. This makes it possible to provide a definitive specification of each procedure and to fully account for their interrelationships and overall control structure. Clauses 16 to 22 describe the DSA procedures from a DSA-centred perspective.
- b) **operation-centred perspective** – The DSA-centred view provides complete detail but makes it difficult to understand the structure of individual operations, which may undergo processing by multiple DSAs. Consequently, clause 15 adopts a primarily operation-centred view to introduce the processing phases applicable to each.

To support the distributed operation of the Directory, each DSA shall perform actions needed to realize the intent of each operation and additional actions needed to distribute that realization across multiple DSAs. Clause 15 explores the distinction between these two kinds of actions. In clauses 16 to 22, both kinds of actions are specified in detail.

## 14.5 Cooperative agreements between DSAs

All DSAs which are in a subordinate/superior relationship due to the naming contexts that they hold have hierarchical and/or non-specific hierarchical operational bindings between them, depending upon the types of knowledge reference held by those DSAs.

Hierarchical and non-specific hierarchical operational bindings between DSAs may be administered using the procedures of clauses 24 and 25, or by off-line means.

A DSA holding entries which are within the administrative area of its superior DSA shall administer the subschema, shall follow the governing-search-rule (if any) and shall control access to the entries, as required by the administrative authority. The regulation of entries within an administrative area may be performed as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2 or may be performed by local mechanisms.

## 15 Distributed Directory behaviour

### 15.1 Cooperative fulfilment of operations

Each DSA is equipped with procedures capable of completely fulfilling all directory operations. In the case that a DSA contains the entire DIB, all operations are completely carried out within that DSA. In the case that the DIB is distributed across a distributed directory, the completion of a typical operation is fragmented, with just a portion of that operation carried out in each of potentially many cooperating directory servers.

In the distributed environment, the typical DSA sees each operation as a transitory event: the operation is invoked by a DUA, an LDAP client or some other DSA; the DSA carries out processing on the object and then directs it toward another directory server for further processing.

An alternative view considers the total processing experienced by an operation during its fulfilment by possible multiple, cooperating directory servers. This perspective reveals the common processing phases that apply to all operations.

### 15.2 Phases of operation processing

Every directory operation may be thought of as comprising three distinct phases:

- a) the *Name Resolution* phase in which the name of the object on whose entry a particular operation is to be performed is used to locate the DSA or LDAP server that holds the entry;
- b) the *Evaluation phase* in which the operation specified by a particular directory request (e.g., a Read operation) is actually performed;
- c) the *Results Merging phase* in which the results of a specified operation are returned to the requesting DUA or LDAP client. If a chaining mode of interaction was chosen, the Results Merging phase may involve several DSAs, each of which chained the original request or subrequest (as defined in clause 15.3.1 – Request decomposition) to other DSAs and LDAP servers during either or both of the preceding phases.

In the case of a Read, Compare, List, Search, Modify Entry, Modify DN, Remove Entry, LDAP Transport or Linked LDAP operation, name resolution takes place on the object name provided in the argument of the operation. In the case of an Add Entry operation, name resolution's target entry is the immediately superior entry of that provided in the argument of the operation – it can be easily derived by removing the final RDN from the name provided in the operation argument. (This is done via local argument *m* in the **FindDSE** procedure of clause 18.3.1.)

An operation on a particular entry may initially be directed at any DSA in a distributed directory. That DSA uses its knowledge, possibly in conjunction with other Directory servers, to process the operation through the three phases.

#### 15.2.1 Name Resolution phase

Name Resolution is the process of sequentially matching each RDN in a purported Name to an arc (or vertex) of the DIT, beginning logically at the Root and progressing downwards in the DIT. However, because the DIT is distributed among arbitrarily many Directory servers, each DSA may only be able to perform a fraction of the Name Resolution process. A given DSA performs its part of the Name Resolution process by traversing its local DSA information tree. This process is described in clause 18 and the accompanying diagrams (see Figures 9 to 12). Based on its local DSA information tree,

and the knowledge information contained therein, a DSA is able to infer whether the resolution can be continued by one or more other DSAs/LDAP servers, or whether the name is erroneous.

NOTE – Name Resolution within an LDAP server is outside the scope of this Directory Specification.

The Name Resolution phase is constrained to work within a DSA information tree if the **manageDSAIT** service control option is set.

### 15.2.2 Evaluation phase

When the Name Resolution phase has completed, the actual operation required (e.g., Read or Search) is performed.

Operations that involve a single entry interrogation – Read, Search with **subset** set to **baseObject** and Compare – may be carried out entirely within the DSA or LDAP server in which the entry is located.

Operations that involve multiple entries interrogation – List, Search and an LDAP search carried by an LDAP Transport operation – need to locate subordinates of the target, which may or may not reside in the same DSA. If they do not all reside in the same DSA, operations need to be directed to the DSAs specified in the subordinate, non-specific subordinate, supplier, or master references (as appropriate) and/or LDAP servers specified in subordinate, non-specific subordinate or cross references to complete the evaluation process.

The Evaluation phase is constrained to work within a DSA information tree if the **manageDSAIT** service control option is set. Likewise, if the evaluation phase starts within a service-specific administrative area, the evaluation is constrained to that administrative area.

### 15.2.3 Results Merging phase

The Results Merging phase is entered once some of the results of the Evaluation phase are available.

In those cases where the operation affected only a single entry, the result of the operation can simply be returned to the requesting DUA or LDAP client. In those cases where the operation has affected multiple entries on multiple Directory servers, results can be combined. If signing is performed on the results of an operation initiated by a DUA, the results shall not be combined. The results should be returned to the DUA without performing merging.

The permissible responses returned to a requester after results merging include:

- a) a complete result of the operation;
- b) a result which is not complete because some parts of the DIT remain unexplored (applies to List, Search and LDAP search only). Such a *partial result* may include continuation references for those parts of the DIT not explored;
- c) an error (a referral being a special case); and
- d) if the requester was a DSA, a **ChainingResults** value.

## 15.3 Managing Distributed Operations

Information is included in the argument of each operation which a DSA may be asked to perform indicating the progress of each operation as it traverses various DSAs of the Directory. This makes it possible for each DSA to perform the appropriate aspect of the processing required, and to record the completion of that aspect before directing the operation outward toward further directory servers.

Additional procedures are included in the DSA to physically distribute the operations and support other needs arising from their distribution.

### 15.3.1 Request decomposition

Request decomposition is a process performed internally by a DSA prior to communication with one or more other directory servers. A request is decomposed into several subrequests such that each of the latter accomplishes a part of the original task. Request decomposition can be used, for example, in the search operation, after the base object has been found. After decomposition, each of the subrequests may then be uni-chained or multi-chained to other directory servers, to continue the task.

The **argument** of a chained request (see clause 12.1) or subrequest shall be the unmodified operation argument of the original DAP operation. A DSA receiving a chained request shall not change **argument** of the DAP request when doing request decomposition.

NOTE – The following subclauses specify this requirement for individual components of **argument**. This should not be interpreted to mean that the component not explicitly mentioned can be changed.

### 15.3.2 DSA as Request Responder

A DSA that receives a request can check the progress of that request as follows:

- if the request is received from a DUA then using the **operationProgress** component of the **CommonArguments** value, or its default value;
- if the request is received from an LDAP client then assume that Name Resolution has not started; or
- if the request is received from a DSA then using the **operationProgress** component of the **ChainingArguments** value, or its default value.

This will determine whether the operation is still in the Name Resolution phase or has reached the evaluation phase, and what portion of the operation the DSA should attempt to satisfy. If the DSA cannot fully satisfy the request, it shall either pass (by uni-chaining or multi-chaining) the operation on to one or more Directory servers which can help to fulfil the request, or return a referral to another DSA or LDAP server, or terminate the request with an error.

### 15.3.3 Completion of operations

Each DSA that has initiated an operation or propagated an operation to one or more other Directory servers shall keep track of that operation's existence until each of the other Directory servers has returned a result or error or the operation's maximum time limit has expired. This requirement applies to all operations, propagation modes and processing phases, except when an LDAP abandon request has been sent to an LDAP server (see clause 20.6.5). It ensures the orderly closing down of distributed operations that have propagated out into the Directory.

## 15.4 Loop handling

The DIT may be in a state that can cause looping. As an example, looping can occur during name resolution where dereferencing one or more aliases brings the resolution back to the same branch of the DIT. Another potential cause of looping is through misconfigured knowledge references.

Within the context of a particular directory operation, a loop occurs if at any time the operation returns to a previous *state*, where state is defined by the following components:

- the name of the DSA currently processing the operation;
- the name of the **targetObject** as contained within the **ChainingArguments** value of the operation;
- the **operationProgress** as contained within the **ChainingArguments** value of the operation and as defined in clause 10.5.

This does not mean that an operation cannot be processed multiple times by a particular DSA. However, it does mean that the DSA will not process the same operation in the same state multiple times.

Looping is controlled using the **TraceInformation** value of the **ChainingArguments** value as defined in clause 10.6, which records the sequence of states a particular operation has gone through. Two strategies are defined to determine whether looping has occurred, or is about to occur. These are loop detection and loop avoidance, and they are described in clauses 15.4.1 and 15.4.2, respectively.

Loop detection is mandatory and loop avoidance is optional.

NOTE – An LDAP server cannot perform loop detection. Loop detection has to be performed by the DSA acting as LDAP requester. Detection of a loop may be delayed if more than one LDAP requester is forwarding requests to the same LDAP server for the same operation.

### 15.4.1 Loop detection

On receipt of a directory operation, a DSA shall initially validate the operation to ensure that it can be progressed. An important task of validation is to check for loops, by determining whether the current state of the operation appears in the sequence of previous states recorded in the **TraceInformation** value for that operation. This step of loop checking is loop detection.

### 15.4.2 Loop avoidance

Loop avoidance requires that a DSA, immediately prior to forwarding an operation to another DSA as part of a chaining procedure, determines whether the consequential state of the operation (which is the **TraceItem** value that the receiving DSA will add to the **TraceInformation** value when it receives it) appears on the sequence of previous states recorded in the **traceInformation** argument for the original incoming operation.

In the case where referrals are received or acted upon, loop avoidance and loop detection cannot be achieved purely by examining **traceInformation**. In this case, each time a DSA acts on a referral, it needs to store the consequential state of the operation (i.e., the **TraceItem** value that the receiving DSA is going to add when it receives the request) along with a record of the incoming request. Before acting on or returning a referral, a DSA needs to check through this list, in order to check that an identical request has not been previously sent whilst trying to service the incoming operation.

## 15.5 Other considerations for distributed operation

### 15.5.1 Service controls

Some service controls need special consideration in the distributed environment in order that the operation is processed the way that was requested.

- a) **chainingProhibited** – A DSA consults this service control when determining the mode of propagation of an operation. If it is set, then the DSA shall always use referral mode. If, however, it is not set, the DSA can choose whether to use chaining or referral depending on its capabilities.
- b) **timeLimit** – A DSA shall take account of this service control to ensure that the time limit is not exceeded in that DSA. A DSA requested to perform an operation by a DUA, initially heeds the **timeLimit** expressed by the DUA as the available elapsed time in seconds for completion of the operation. If chaining is required, the **timeLimit** is included in the chaining arguments to be passed to the next DSA(s). In this case, the same value of the limit is used for each chained request, and is the (UTC) time by which the operation shall complete to meet the originally specified constraint. On receiving **ChainingArguments** with a **timeLimit** specified, the receiving DSA respects this limit.
- c) **sizeLimit** – A DSA shall take account of this service control for List, Search and LDAP Search operations to ensure that the list of results does not exceed the size specified. The limit, as included in the common argument of the original request, is conveyed unchanged as the request is chained. If request decomposition is required, the same value is included in the argument to be passed to the next DSA, the full limit is used for each subrequest. When the results are returned, the requester DSA resolves the multiple results and applies the limit to the total to ensure that only the requested number is returned. If the limit had been exceeded, this is indicated in the reply.
- d) **priority** – In all modes of propagation, each DSA is responsible for ensuring that the processing of operations is ordered so as to support this service control, if present.
- e) **localScope** – The operation is limited to a locally defined scope and each DSA shall not propagate the request outside of this.
- f) **scopeOfReferral** – If the DSA returns a referral or partial result to a List or Search operation, then the embedded continuation references shall be within the requested scope.

All other service controls need to be respected, but their use does not require any special consideration in the distributed environment.

### 15.5.2 Extensions

If a DSA encounters an extended operation in the Name Resolution phase of processing and determines that the operation should be chained to one or more DSAs, it shall include unchanged in the chained operation any extensions present.

NOTE – An administrative authority may determine that it is appropriate to return a **serviceError** with problem **unwillingToPerform** if it does not wish to propagate an extension.

If a DSA encounters an extension it does not support in the evaluation phase of processing, two possibilities may arise. If the extension is not critical, the DSA shall ignore the extension. If the extension is critical, the DSA shall return a **serviceError** with problem **unavailableCriticalExtension**. A critical extension to a multiple object operation may result in both results and service errors of this variety. A DSA merging such results and errors shall discard these service errors and employ the **unavailableCriticalExtension** component of **PartialOutcomeQualifier** as described in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

If an LDAP requester is about to chain a request initiated by a DUA to an LDAP server and it does not have knowledge of an LDAP control corresponding to each critical extension, it shall return an **unavailableCriticalExtensions** as specified above. However, if this is not the case and there are no other reasons for not chaining the request, it shall in the chained request add all known LDAP controls corresponding to the extensions signalled in the received request.

### 15.5.3 Alias dereferencing

Alias dereferencing is the process of creating a new target object name, by replacing the alias entry distinguished name part of the original target object name with the **AliasedEntryName** attribute value from the alias entry. The **object** name in the operation shall not be affected by alias dereferencing.

### 15.5.4 Paged results

When a DUA includes the **PagedResultsRequest** in the **search** or **list** request (see clause 7.9 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3), the paging may be performed by the bound DSA, or it can be performed by the DSA that holds the **baseObject/object** entry of the **search** or **list** request (possible after one or more alias dereferencings), also called the *initial performer*. If the paging is performed by the bound DSA, which could also be the initial performer, the paging is called *bound-DSA paged results*. If the paging is performed by the initial performer, and the initial performer is different from the bound DSA, then the paging is called *DSP paged results*.

A DSA that supports DSP paged results shall:

- support DSA-bound paged results;
- support DSP paged results as bound DSA;
- support DSP paged results as an initial performer; and
- support the **entryCount** subcomponent of the **PartialOutcomeQualifier**.

When a bound DSA receives a **search** or **list** request with the **PagedResultsRequest** included, and the bound DSA is not the initial performer for that request, then the bound DSA may elect to include the **dspPaging** component in the **ChainingArguments** value. The initial performer may elect to do DSP paged results. This is signalled to the bound DSA by including a **queryReference** in the **PartialOutcomeQualifier**. This is the **queryReference** returned to the DUA to be used for retrieval of the next page.

If the initial performer either does not support DSP paged results or chooses not to perform it, the bound DSA may perform normal bound-DSA paging.

A DSA that is a performer, but is not the initial performer, shall ignore a possible **dspPaging** component in the **ChainingArguments** value, and it shall honour the **sizeLimit** service control if present.

### 15.5.5 Handling requests from LDAP client

When an LDAP client sends a request into a boundary DSA, the request is formatted according to IETF RFC 4511. How the request is handled by the boundary DSA depends on the initial destination of the request:

- a) If the bound DSA and/or the LDAP servers for which the bound DSA is an LDAP responder complete the operation, then the procedure is outside the scope of this Directory specification.
- b) If the request is initially handled as in a) but it becomes necessary to chain one or more subrequests to other DSAs, then such subrequests shall be chained wrapped as LDAP Transport operations.
- c) If the original request is chained to another DSA, it shall be chained wrapped as an LDAP Transport operation.

## 15.6 Authentication of Distributed operations

Users of the Directory together with the administrative authorities that provide directory services may, at their discretion, require that directory operations be authenticated. For any particular directory operation, the nature of the authentication process will depend upon the security policy in force.

Two sets of authentication procedures are available which collectively enable a range of authentication requirements to be met. One set of procedures are those provided by the Bind operation: these facilitate authentication between two directory application-entities for the purposes of establishing an application-association. The Bind procedures accommodate a range of authentication exchanges from a simple exchange of identities to strong authentication.

In addition to the peer entity authentication of an association as provided by the Bind operation, additional procedures are defined within the directory to enable individual operations to be authenticated. Two distinct sets of directory authentication procedures are defined. One facilitates requester authentication services, which address the authentication, by a DSA, of the requester of the original service request. The second set facilitates results authentication services which address the authentication, by a requester, of any results that are returned.

For requester authentication, two procedures are defined, one based upon a simple exchange of identities, termed **identity based authentication**, and one based upon digital signature techniques, termed **signature based authentication**. The former of these procedures is rudimentary in nature since the identity exchange is based upon the exchange of distinguished names which are transmitted in the clear.

For authentication of results a single **results authentication** procedure is defined, based upon digital signature techniques; due to the generally complex nature of results collation, a simpler, identity-based procedure is not defined.

Authentication of error responses may be supported by these procedures.

The services described below are to be considered as augmenting those provided by the Bind service; Bind procedures are assumed to have been effected successfully prior to authentication of directory operations.

The procedures to be effected by a DSA in providing requester and results authentication are specified in clause 22.

## 16 The Operation Dispatcher

The **Operation Dispatcher** is the main controlling procedure in a DSA. It guides each operation through the three phases of processing a request. The **Operation Dispatcher** therefore makes use of a set of procedures to fully process the request as shown in Figure 6.

### 16.1 General concepts

#### 16.1.1 Procedures

Each of the procedures employed by the **Operation Dispatcher** consists of a definition of its conceptual interface in terms of its parameters, i.e., arguments, results and errors, and a description of the procedure steps themselves. The behaviour of the procedures is described by flowcharts and text. Within a flow chart, the used symbols have the semantics shown in Figure 7.

#### 16.1.2 Use of common data structures

All procedures make use of some data structures that are available during the processing of an operation within the **Operation Dispatcher**. These data structures serve to coordinate the data flow within the **Operation Dispatcher**. Most of these structures are directly associated with the argument of the operation and the result to be created for the operation. Components of the argument and result are referred to using their names within the associated ASN.1 definition (e.g., the **operationProgress** component of the chaining arguments). If any of these structures is a compound structure, a component of this structure may be referred to as **compound.component** (e.g., **operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase**).

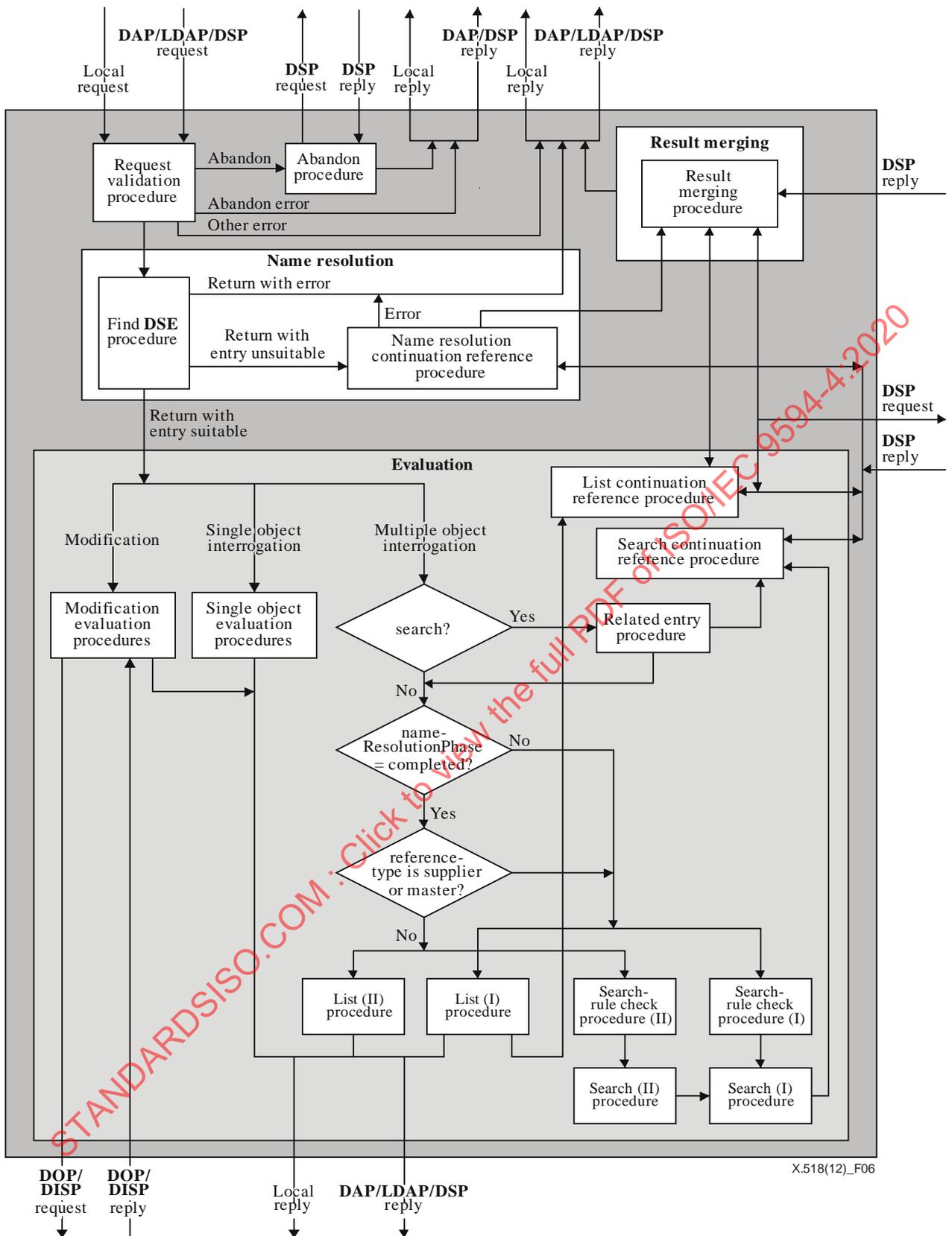


Figure 6 – Operation Dispatcher

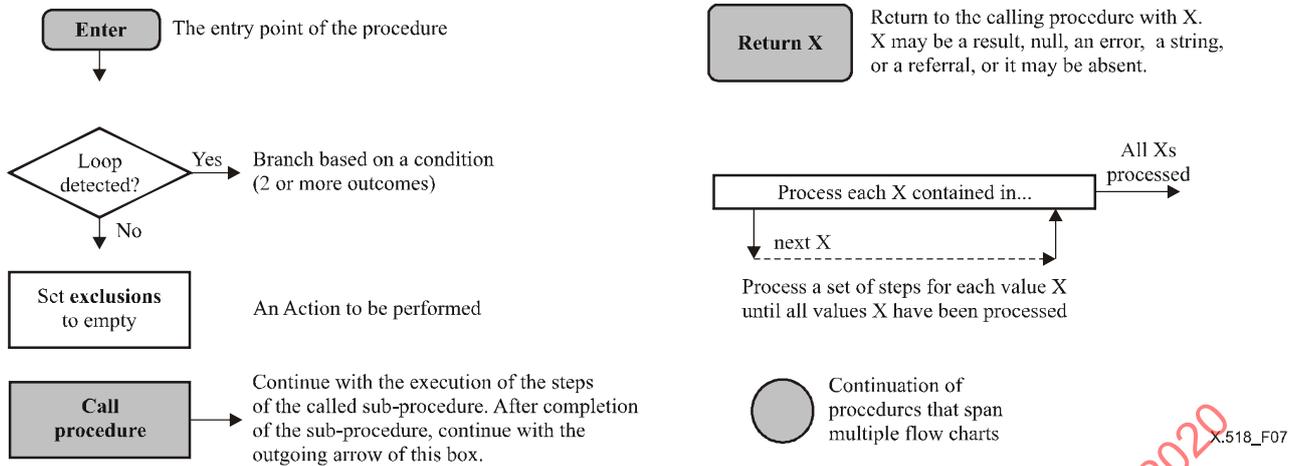


Figure 7 – Symbols used in flow charts

The following data structures are defined within the **Operation Dispatcher**:

- **NRcontinuationList** – A list of continuation references created for use in the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure.
- **SRcontinuationList** – A list of continuation references created for use in the **List** or **Search Continuation Reference** procedure.
- **admPoints** – A list of references to DSEs of type administrative point that is collected during Name Resolution.
- **referralRequests** – A list of the requests or subrequests which have been chained as a result of executing referrals. Each such request/subrequest is summarised in the form of a **TraceItem**. This list is used by the Loop Avoidance procedure of clause 15.4.2.
- **emptyHierarchySelect** – A Boolean type variable that can be set in the **Hierarchy Selection** procedure. The variable is assumed to be reset when entering **Hierarchy Selection** procedure the first time during a Search operation.

Furthermore, a procedure may use a set of locally defined variables.

### 16.1.3 Errors

At each stage of the processing, an error may be detected during the execution of any sub-procedure. The error identified within this sub-procedure is normally returned to the requester as a corresponding protocol error. In this case, the **Operation Dispatcher** is terminated immediately. In the case that multiple errors are received, one shall be selected to be returned (see clause 13.1 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3).

Alternatively, a procedure may choose to process errors (e.g., if a **serviceError** with problem **busy** is returned to a chained search subrequest) at certain points of operation processing. In this case, the procedure continues with its execution and no error is returned to the requester.

The conditions under which a DSA may sign the errors returned are specified in clause 13 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

### 16.1.4 Asynchronous events

During the processing of an operation request within the **Operation Dispatcher**, several asynchronous events may occur. The following subclauses specify how to handle an exceeded time limit or size limit or administrative limit, a loss of association and an **abandon** request for an operation that is being processed. The handling of all other asynchronous events, e.g., local policy decisions, etc., is outside the scope of this Directory Specification.

#### 16.1.4.1 Time limit

A **timeLimit**, as specified in the **CommonArguments** value, can expire at any point in time during the operation. In this case, normally a **serviceError** with problem **timeLimitExceeded** is returned to the requesting DUA or DSA and the **Operation Dispatcher** is terminated. If the requester is an LDAP client, the bound DSA shall convert the error to a **timeLimitExceeded** LDAP result code. Alternatively, a procedure may choose to handle this event in a different way (e.g., during processing of a **search** request).

If a DSA receives a request from another DSA with the time limit exceeded, it shall send a **serviceError** with problem **timeLimitExceeded** without any further processing of the request.

If a DSA has outstanding (sub)requests, when the **timeLimit** expires, and there are no results available, it shall return a **serviceError** with problem **timeLimitExceeded** to the requester.

If the request was not an **ldapTransport** request, and if a DSA has outstanding subrequests, when the **timeLimit** expires, and there are results available, it shall return a result to the requester with the following contents:

- a) all the collected results, up to the **timeLimit** expiring;
- b) the **limitProblem** subcomponent of the **partialOutcomeQualifier** component shall be set to **timeLimitExceeded**; and
- c) the **unexplored** subcomponent of the **partialOutcomeQualifier** component shall contain a continuation reference value for each set of directory servers to which subrequests were sent but the result of which is not included in the result to the requester, in addition to continuation references to DSAs to which this DSA did not attempt to send subrequests.

If the request was an **ldapTransport** request, and if a DSA has outstanding subrequests, when the **timeLimit** expires:

- a) if there are retained results, these results shall be returned in a **linkedLDAP** request;
- b) if the embedded LDAP request in the **ldapTransport** request was a **SearchRequest**, then return an **SearchResultDone** with **resultCode** equal to **timeLimitExceeded** embedded in an **ldapTransport** result;
- c) if the embedded LDAP request in the **ldapTransport** request was not a **SearchRequest**, then return a result for the type operation with **resultCode** set to **timeLimitExceeded** embedded in an **ldapTransport** result.

#### 16.1.4.2 Loss of an application-association

If the application-association to the requester is lost, the possibility of returning results is lost. The DSA may optionally for each outstanding interrogation (sub)request to DSAs send a **chainedAbandon** request, unless the application-association to the DSA in question has also been lost. All replies to such **chainedAbandon** requests and all replies to outstanding (sub)requests shall be discarded. In the case of DSP paged results, the bound DSA should cancel outstanding paged results by generating a new paged result request by taking the **abandonQuery** alternative of the **PagedResultsRequest** value. The DSA may also for each outstanding interrogation (sub)request to LDAP servers send an LDAP AbandonRequest and all results to outstanding (sub)requests shall be discarded.

If the application-association to one of the outstanding chained subrequests is lost and the application-association with the requester is not lost, the DSA may, for interrogation operations only, optionally try any alternative reference to another directory server of the same type that is able to process the chained request (e.g., a reference to a shadow DSA, after loss of the association to the master DSA). If this does not succeed, the DSA shall act as follows:

- 1) If **operationProgress.nameResolution** is set to **notStarted** or **proceeding**, return either:
  - if the reply is to be returned to a DUA (or DSA), a **serviceError** with problem **unavailable** to the requester or a referral error whose continuation reference contains the set of directory servers that are able to continue the operation.
  - if the reply is to be returned to an LDAP client, an LDAP result with **resultCode** equal to **unavailable** or with **resultCode** set to **referral** and with referrals (URIs) to the set of directory servers that are able to continue the operation.

If non-specific subordinate references are used during the Name Resolution phase and not all the application-associations in question are lost, optionally attempt to do the name resolution without the directory servers to which the associations are lost. If this fails:

- if the reply is to be returned to a DUA (or DSA), return either a **serviceError** with problem **unavailable**, or a referral error containing the complete set of NSSRs.
- if the reply is to be returned to an LDAP client, return either an LDAP result with **resultCode** set to **unavailable** or with **resultCode** equal to **referral** and with referrals (URIs) corresponding to the complete set of NSSRs.

If the DSA using local knowledge knows, possibly reflected in the appropriate **MasterOrShadowAccessPoint** value, that chaining is required to a DSA to which an application-association is lost, it shall elect to send a **serviceError** with problem **unavailable**. The **notification** component of the **CommonResults** data type may be included and shall then contain:

- a **dsAPProblem** notification attribute with the value **id-pr-targetDsaUnavailable**; and
  - a **distinguishedName** attribute having as value the distinguished name of the DSA.
- 2) If **operationProgress.nameResolution** is set to **completed** and the request is a single object operation:
- if the reply is to be returned to a DUA (or DSA), return a **serviceError** with problem **unavailable** to the requester.
  - if the reply is to be returned to an LDAP client, return an LDAP result with **resultCode** set to **unavailable**.
- 3) If **operationProgress.nameResolution** is set to **completed** and the request is a multiple entry interrogation operation, the DSA shall add a continuation reference to **partialOutcomeQualifier.unexplored** of the operation result, with **AccessPointInformation** identifying the set of directory servers that are able to continue the operation, including directory servers to which application-associations have been lost.

#### 16.1.4.3 Abandoning the operation

During the processing of an operation, an **abandon** request can be received for this operation. In this case, during the processing of the **abandon** request, the **Abandon** procedure is called for the operation to be abandoned.

#### 16.1.4.4 Administrative Limits

There may be limits imposed by the local directory server administrator or by the directory server implementation itself, e.g., the amount of time to spend on processing a request, or the maximum size of data to be returned, etc. If any of these limits is exceeded, a DSA shall:

- if the reply is to be returned to a DUA (or DSA), return either a **serviceError** with problem **administrativeLimitExceeded** or a partial result (taken from the set of already collected results) with **limitProblem** set to **administrativeLimitExceeded**;
- if the reply is to be returned to an LDAP client, return possible retained results collected before the administrative limit was exceeded and LDAP result with **resultCode** set to **adminLimitExceeded**.

If the reply is to be returned to a DUA (or DSA), additional information may be returned by a DSA in a **dsAPProblem** notification attribute as follows:

- a) if the limit is imposed by the administrator, the **dsAPProblem** notification attribute shall take the value **id-pr-administratorImposedLimit**;  
NOTE – This does not imply that an implementation is required to have customization capabilities for an administrator to implant administrative limits.
- b) if the limit caused by an implementation restriction and the problem is perceived to be of permanent nature, the **dsAPProblem** notification attribute shall take the value **id-pr-permanentRestriction**;
- c) if the limit caused by an implementation restriction and the problem is perceived to be of a temporary nature, e.g., temporary congestion, the **dsAPProblem** notification attribute shall take the value **id-pr-temporaryRestriction**.

#### 16.1.4.5 Size limit

A size limit, as specified in **CommonArguments**, can be exceeded at any point in time during processing of a List, Search or LDAP Search operation. In this case, a partial result (taken from the set of already collected results) shall be returned to the requester with **limitProblem** set to **sizeLimitExceeded**. In addition, the **unexplored** component may be used for returning Continuation References of unaccessed directory servers.

If it is a DAP Search operation and the **entryCount** search control option is set, the DSA shall make a best estimate on how many entries would potentially have been returned had there been no size limit by taking into account access control but not hierarchical selections, and then return that figure in the **entryCount** component of the **PartialOutcomeQualifier** using the **bestEstimate** alternative if there are no **unaccessed** directory servers, otherwise, it shall make the **lowEstimate** alternative.

**Operation Dispatcher** is then terminated.

## 16.2 Procedures of the Operation Dispatcher

The procedure that is performed by the **Operation Dispatcher** for processing each received request (over DAP, LDAP or DSP) is defined by the following steps. Due to alias dereferencing, this procedure may also call itself (a local request), in which case a local reply (rather than a DAP or DSP reply) is returned.

- 1) Validate several aspects of the operation arguments (**Request Validation** procedures). If an error is encountered during validation, return this error locally or over a DAP/DSP.
- 2) If the request received was a DAP **abandon** request, call the **DAP/DSP Abandon** procedure and return a reply afterwards.
- 3) If the request received was an **ldapTransport** request with an embedded **AbandonRequest**, call the **LDAP abandon** procedure.
- 3) Resolve the name of the target object by executing the **Find DSE** procedure (which includes the **Target Found** and **Target Not Found** sub-procedures). If the requested entry was found and is suitable (according to the setting of the service controls, chaining arguments and local policy decisions), continue with the **Evaluation Phase** at step 6). If during Name Resolution an error was encountered, it is returned. If the entry was found not to be suitable, continue at step 4).
- 4) The **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure is called to process the list of Continuation References as stored in the **NRcontinuationList**. In order to process these Continuation References, chained requests may be issued to other DSAs (if service controls and local policy decision allow it).  
In case of an error, this error is directly returned either locally or via a DAP/DSP. If the chained request generated a result, then continue with step 5).
- 5) The **Results Merging** procedure is called to merge the local results with the received Chained Results. If the Chained Results contain embedded Continuation References, these may first be resolved if the service controls and local policy allow or require it.  
This may cause additional Chained Requests to be issued (whose Chained Results may also contain embedded Continuation References).  
The merged results are returned to the caller, and processing of the request ceases.  
If protection is performed on the results, the merging of results shall not be performed.
- 6) If the operation is a modification operation, continue at step 7).  
If the operation is a single entry interrogation operation, continue at step 8).  
If the operation is a multiple entry interrogation operation, continue at step 9).
- 7) When carrying out a modification procedure, Operational Bindings may need to be established, modified or terminated, or shadows may need to be updated as a consequence of performing the operation. Whether these are done synchronously or asynchronously with the performance of the original operation depends on the respective modification operations (and on local policy). A local or a DAP/LDAP/DSP result or error is returned to the caller.
- 8) The result of a single entry interrogation operation is directly returned to the caller as a local or a DAP/DSP result.
- 9) If the operation is a multiple entry interrogation operation, then check the **nameResolutionPhase** of the operation. If it is not **completed**, then call the **List(I)** or **Search(I)** procedure, otherwise, call the **List(II)** or **Search(II)** procedure, respectively.
- 10) The outcome of a call to the **List(II)** procedure (result or error) and the outcome of a call to the **List(I)** procedure (in case that the outcome is an error) can directly be returned to the caller (as a local or a DAP/DSP result).  
If the procedure called was the **List(I)** procedure, the result might contain Continuation References that have to be dereferenced (depending on service controls and local policy). This may result in chained List operations being sent off to the respective DSAs. To merge the results continue at step 5) with the call to the **Results Merging** procedure.
- 11) If the operation was a Search operation, any Continuation References are resolved by the **Search Continuation Reference** procedure (if required and allowed). This may cause **chainedSearch** requests to be sent off to the respective DSAs and/or LDAP **SearchRequest** to be sent to the respective adjacent LDAP servers. The **Results Merging** procedure [see step 5)] is called to merge the search results and possibly to dereference contained Continuation References, if any.

### 16.3 Overview of procedures

This clause gives an overview of the basic functionality of the procedures employed by the **Operation Dispatcher** which are defined in clauses 17 to 22.

#### 16.3.1 Request Validation procedure

This procedure, described in clause 17, is called to perform loop checking, limit checking, and security checking prior to performing local name resolution. This procedure also provides default settings for those parameters of the **ChainingArguments** that are not provided by the DAP in the case that the request came from a DUA. Furthermore, this procedure singles out any **abandon** request and notifies this to **Operation Dispatcher**.

#### 16.3.2 Abandon procedures

The **DAP/DSP abandon** procedure, described in clause 20.5.1, tries to find the operation that is to be abandoned and terminate it. If there are any outstanding subrequests, Chained Abandon operations may be sent after them. The procedure either returns an empty result to the caller, or an error indication (e.g., **abandonError** with problem **tooLate**).

The LDAP abandon request, described in clause 20.5.2, forwards the abandon to the appropriate LDAP server and returns an empty **ldapTransport** result.

#### 16.3.3 Find DSE procedure

This procedure, described in clauses 18.2 and 18.3, matches the components of the name of the target object against the locally held DSEs to resolve the target object name. If an alias DSE is encountered, the alias is dereferenced (if permitted) and the procedure is restarted to resolve the new name.

If the target was not found, the procedure is continued at the **Target Not Found** sub-procedure. If the target was found, the procedure is continued at the **Target Found** sub-procedure.

NOTE – **Target Not Found** and **Target Found** are continuations of the **Find DSE** procedure.

The procedure may result in various errors, in which case, the associated protocol DAP error or LDAP result with associated **resultCode** is returned to the requester and the **Operation Dispatcher** is terminated.

##### 16.3.3.1 Target Not Found sub-procedure

This procedure, described in clause 18.3.2, performs an evaluation of the located intermediate DSEs and creates a set of Continuation References in **NRcontinuationList**, based on the set of knowledge references that have been detected during the **Find DSE** procedure. This set of references is then further processed within the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure.

The procedure may result in various errors, in which case the associated DAP error or LDAP result with associated **resultCode** is returned to the requester and the **Operation Dispatcher** is terminated.

##### 16.3.3.2 Target Found sub-procedure

This procedure, defined in clause 18.3.3, checks if the found DSE is suitable for the requested operation, i.e., in the case where it is shadowed information. This may include checking the suitability of the whole subtree of shadowed information below the target object in the case of a multiple object operation (e.g., subtree search).

If the located entry is suitable, the appropriate operation evaluation procedure is invoked. Otherwise, a **ContinuationReference** pointing to the supplier (or master) of the information is created in **NRcontinuationList** and the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure is invoked.

#### 16.3.4 Single entry interrogation procedure

This procedure, described in clause 19.2, is invoked to actually execute those operations that only affect a single entry, i.e., Read and Compare operations. After completion, a reply (result or error) created by the procedure is returned to the requesting DSA/DUA/LDAP client.

#### 16.3.5 Modification procedures

These procedures, described in clause 19.1, are executed to process the modification operations, i.e., Add Entry, Remove Entry, Modify Entry, Modify DN, Change Password and Administer Password. This is done by executing a specific sub-procedure defined for each of these operations. During (or after) these sub-procedures, DOP and DISP requests may be issued to other DSAs. After successful completion, a result (created by the sub-procedures) is returned to the requesting DSA/DUA/LDAP client.

### 16.3.6 Multiple entry interrogation procedures

These procedures, described in clause 19.3, are executed to process operations that affect multiple entries which may or may not be located in the same DSA or LDAP server. This is done by executing specific sub-procedures defined for each of the Search and List operations to accomplish request decomposition. These procedures create a local result of the operation evaluation and optionally a set of continuation references in **SRcontinuationList**. If **SRcontinuationList** is empty at the end of this procedure, the created result is directly returned to the requesting DSA/DUA/LDAP client.

If it is a DAP Search operation, if the result is empty and if the variable **emptyHierarchySelect** is set, then return in the **notification** component of the **PartialOutcomeQualifier**:

- a **searchServiceProblem** notification attribute with the value **id-pr-emptyHierarchySelection**.

If **SRcontinuationList** is not empty, these continuation references are processed by invoking **List** or **Search Continuation Reference** procedure, according to the operation type.

### 16.3.7 Name Resolution Continuation Reference procedure

This procedure, described in clause 20.4.1, processes the continuation references in **NRcontinuationList** created during the Name Resolution phase. These continuation references are either used to issue chained subrequests or returned in a referral. In the case of chaining, the results or errors returned from the chained request are returned for further processing by the **Results Merging** procedure.

### 16.3.8 List and Search Continuation Reference procedure

These procedures, described in clauses 20.4.2 and 20.4.3, process the continuation references in **SRcontinuationList** created by the multiple entry interrogation procedures and either resolve them by issuing chained subrequests or by creating continuation reference(s) within the **partialOutcomeQualifier.unexplored**. When results or errors for all outstanding subrequests have been received, they are returned for further processing by the **Results Merging** procedure.

### 16.3.9 Results Merging procedure

This procedure, described in clause 21, either examines the result from a chained request or combines the local operation results with the results received from the chained subrequests. If a subrequest had returned an error, this procedure determines how this error has to be handled.

If there are any continuation references left in the result, they will (if local policy allows it and service controls require it) be dereferenced by the **Name Resolution**, **List**, or **Search Continuation Reference** procedures, accordingly. Duplicates are removed from the result if it is unsigned.

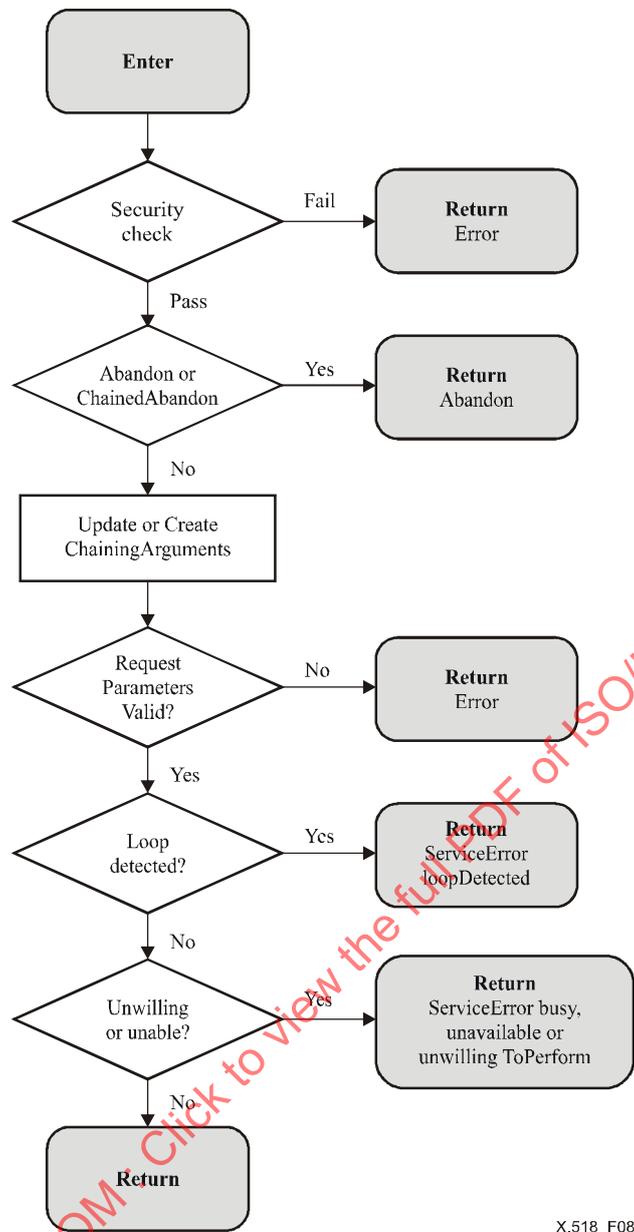
The merged result (with all merged results and unresolved continuation references) is returned to the requesting DUA/DSA.

If the results are signed, the merging of results shall not be performed.

## 17 Request Validation procedure

### 17.1 Introduction

The **Request Validation** procedure is the entry point of the **Operation Dispatcher** for inputs from DUAs, LDAP clients and DSAs, preparing such inputs for Name Resolution processing. The function of this procedure is to detect Abandon operations, to perform security checks, to adjust input received from DUAs or LDAP clients so that it may be processed in the same way as input received from DSAs, to check the arguments of the request for valid syntax and semantics, to perform loop detection, and to perform other miscellaneous checks. The flow of **Request Validation** is depicted in Figure 8.



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Figure 8 – Request Validation procedure

17.2 Procedure parameters

17.2.1 Arguments

The input argument to **Request Validation** consists of the **ChainingArguments** value (except in the case of **chainedAbandon** request), if the request is received from a DSA, and the argument issued by the requester.

17.2.2 Results

The output result of **Request Validation** consists of the following possibilities.

- a) If the security check fails, an error is returned to the requester.
- b) If the input is an **abandon** or **chainedAbandon** operation, the output is the argument of the operation.
- c) If the arguments of the request are invalid, then an error is returned to the requester. Depending on local policy, the DSA may choose whether to return a **serviceError** or a **securityError**.
- d) If a loop is detected, a **serviceError** with problem **loopDetected** is returned to the requester.
- e) If, based on resource problems or policy considerations, the DSA is unable or unwilling to perform the operation, a **serviceError** (with problem **busy**, **unavailable**, or **unwillingToPerform**) is returned to the requester. If relevant, a **serviceError** with problem **dataSourceUnavailable** may be returned.

- f) In all other cases, the validated input, transformed by the addition of **ChainingArguments** if received from a DUA or LDAP client or the update of **ChainingArguments.traceInformation** if received from a DSA, is the output of the procedure and subsequently the input to the **Name Resolution** procedure.

### 17.3 Procedure definition

The security check described in clause 17.3.2 is performed. This may result in the return of an error and the termination of the **Operation Dispatcher**.

If the input is an **abandon** or **chainedAbandon** operation, only the steps in clause 17.3.1 are subsequently performed, otherwise, the steps in clauses 17.3.3-17.3.5 are performed. Clause 17.3.5 describes the loop detection procedure which may result in the return of an error and the termination of the **Operation Dispatcher**.

Next, the checks in clause 17.3.6 are performed. They may result in the return of an error and the termination of the **Operation Dispatcher**.

If the checks in clauses 17.3.2-17.3.6 do not result in the termination of the **Operation Dispatcher**, the steps in clause 17.3.7 are performed and the procedure terminates with the transfer of its output to the **Name Resolution** procedure.

#### 17.3.1 Abandon processing

The argument of an **abandon** or **chainedAbandon** request is passed to the **Abandon** procedure, (see clause 20.5), to process the abandon request.

#### 17.3.2 Security checks

If the argument to the operation is signed, the signature may be checked. Should the signature be invalid, or be absent in a case when it should be present, an error may be returned to the requester. Alternatively, a DSA may perform any other locally defined action.

#### 17.3.3 Input preparation

##### 17.3.3.1 DUA request

If the operation is received from a DUA client, a **ChainingArguments** value is created as follows:

- a) **ChainingArguments.originator** shall be set as described in clause 10.3.
- b) **ChainingArguments.operationProgress** is set to the value of **CommonArguments.operationProgress**.
- c) **ChainingArguments.traceInformation** is set to a sequence containing a single **TraceItem** value. This value is constructed as follows. **TraceItem.dsa** is set to the name of the DSA executing **Request Validation**. **TraceItem.targetObject** shall be omitted. **TraceItem.operationProgress** is set to the incoming value.
- d) If the service control of the operation specifies a time limit (the available elapsed time in seconds for completion of the operation), **ChainingArguments.timeLimit** is set to the (UTC) time by which the operation shall complete to meet the user's specified time limit.
- e) **ChainingArguments.AuthenticationLevel** and **ChainingArguments.UniqueIdentifier** are set according to the local security policy.
- f) **ChainingArguments.nameResolveOnMaster** is copied from **CommonArguments.nameResolveOnMaster**.
- g) **ChainingArguments.exclusions**, **ChainingArguments.entryOnly** and **ChainingArguments.referenceType** are copied from **CommonArguments.exclusions**, **CommonArguments.entryOnly** and **CommonArguments.referenceType** if they are present, otherwise, they are omitted.
- h) If the **managedDSAIT** option is set in the **ServiceControls**, then:
  - the **nameResolutionPhase** component of **operationProgress** shall be set to **completed**;
  - the **nextRDNTToBeResolved** component of the **operationProgress** shall be omitted;
  - **referenceType** shall take the value **self**;
  - **entryOnly** shall take the value **FALSE**;
  - **nameResolveOnMaster** shall take the value **FALSE**; and
  - the **chainingProhibited** option in **ServiceControls** shall be set;

- the remaining optional elements of **ChainingArguments** are omitted, with default values being assumed where specified.
- i) If the **manageDSAIT** option is not set in the **ServiceControls**, then the remaining optional elements of **ChainingArguments** are omitted, with default values being assumed where specified.
- j) **ChainingArguments.SecurityParameters.ProtectionRequest** is used to indicate the level of protection (no signing or signing) to be applied to the results.

### 17.3.3.2 LDAP request

A request received from an LDAP client is validated according to the procedure specified in IETF RFC 4511. If an error is returned, the procedure is complete.

If the request includes a **Control** value with the **criticality** component set to **TRUE** and this **Control** value is not supported, then an LDAP result with **resultCode** set to **unavailableCriticalExtension** shall be returned and the procedure is complete.

If the request includes a **Control** value that is recognised and supported, this **Control** value shall be processed as specified.

If the request is evaluated entirely within the bound DSA, the procedure defined by IETF RFC 4511 shall be followed.

If the operation is received from an LDAP client and the next destination is an adjacent LDAP server, then the DSA acting as an LDAP requester forwards the request according to IETF RFC 4511, except that the **MessageId** is changed according to the procedures for the LDAP server. If the request is an LDAP abandon request, the procedure is complete. Otherwise, on the return of the reply, the reply is forwarded to the LDAP client with the original **MessageId**.

If the LDAP client request is to be forwarded to or beyond an adjacent DSA, it is wrapped in an **ldapTransport** request argument together with some additional information as specified in clause 12.1.2 of ITU Rec. X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. A **ChainingArguments** value shall be created as follows:

- a) The **ChainingArguments.originator** component shall be set as described in clause 10.3.
- b) The **ChainingArguments.targetObject** component need not be present.
- c) The **ChainingArguments.operationProgress** shall be absent or take the value **notStarted** if the bound DSA has not performed any name resolution. Otherwise, it shall take the value **proceeding**.
- d) The **ChainingArguments.traceInformation** is set to a sequence containing a single **TraceItem** value. This value shall be constructed as follows. **TraceItem.dsa** is set to the name of the DSA executing **Request Validation**. **TraceItem.targetObject** shall be omitted. **TraceItem.operationProgress** shall be set to **notStarted**.
- e) The **ChainingArguments.aliasDereferenced** shall be **TRUE** if an alias has been dereferenced within the bound DSA. Otherwise, it shall be absent or shall have the value **FALSE**.
- f) The **ChainingArguments.aliasedRDNs** shall be absent.
- g) The **ChainingArguments.returnCrossRefs**, **ChainingArguments.referenceType** and **ChainingArguments.info** components shall be set as described in clause 10.3.
- h) The **ChainingArguments.timelimit** component shall be present if the LDAP request includes a **timeLimit** component different from zero. Otherwise, it shall be absent.
- i) The **ChainingArguments.entryOnly** component shall be absent.
- j) The **ChainingArguments.uniqueIdentifier** component shall be absent.
- k) **ChainingArguments.AuthenticationLevel** component shall be set as described in clause 10.3.
- l) The **ChainingArguments.exclusions** component shall be absent.
- m) The **ChainingArguments.excludeShadows** component shall be set as described in clause 10.3.
- n) The **ChainingArguments.nameResolutionOnMasters** component shall be set as described in clause 10.3.
- o) The **ChainingArguments.operationIdentifier** component shall be set as described in clause 10.3.
- p) The **ChainingArguments.searchRuleId** component shall be absent.
- q) The **ChainingArguments.chainedRelaxation** component shall be absent.
- r) The **ChainingArguments.relatedEntry** component shall be absent.
- s) The **ChainingArguments.dspPaging** component shall be absent.

### 17.3.3.3 DSA request

If the operation is received from a DSA, `ChainingArguments.traceInformation` is updated by appending a value at the end of sequence `TraceItem`. This value is constructed as follows:

- a) `TraceItem.dsa` is set to the name of the DSA executing **Request Validation**.
- b) `TraceItem.targetObject` is set to the value of `ChainingArguments.targetObject` unless the `object` (or `baseObject` in the case of a Search operation) of the request argument is identical to `ChainingArguments.targetObject`, in which case `TraceItem.targetObject` shall be omitted.
- c) `TraceItem.operationProgress` is set to the value of `ChainingArguments.operationProgress`.

### 17.3.4 Validity assertion

The operation shall be checked for valid syntax and semantics of its arguments according to the rules contained in the clauses defining each operation (e.g., it should be checked that the `nextRDNTToBeResolved` does not provide a number exceeding the number of RDNs in the `targetObject`). If the request is detected to contain invalid arguments, the operation is terminated and an error is returned to the user, depending on the kind of invalidity detected.

### 17.3.5 Loop detection

If any two `TraceItem` values of `ChainingArguments.traceInformation` (as prepared in clause 17.3.3) are identical, processing of the operation has returned to a previous state, i.e., a loop has been detected. In this case,

- a) if the reply is to be returned to a DUA (or DSA), a `serviceError` (with problem `loopDetected`) shall be returned to the requester and the **Operation Dispatcher** terminates;
- b) if the reply is to be returned to an LDAP client, an LDAP result with `resultCode` set to `loopDetected` shall be returned to the requester and the **Operation Dispatcher** terminates.

### 17.3.6 Unable or unwilling to perform

**Request Validation** may assess available resources and determine that the operation cannot be performed. It may also determine, based on policy considerations, that the operation should not be performed. In these cases,

- a) If the reply is to be returned to a DUA (or DSA), a `serviceError` (with problem `busy`, `unavailable`, or `unwillingToPerform`) may be returned to the requester and the **Operation Dispatcher** terminates.
- b) If the reply is to be returned to an LDAP client, an LDAP result with `resultCode` set to `busy`, `unavailable` or `unwillingToPerform` shall be returned to the requester and the **Operation Dispatcher** terminates.

If a DSA by local means can determine that the problem is related to the unavailability of local DIB resources, it shall

- a) If the reply is to be returned to a DUA (or DSA), send a `serviceError` with problem `unavailable`, and the optional `notification` component of the `CommonResults` value, if present, shall contain:
  - a `dsaproblem` notification attribute with the value `id-pr-dataSourceUnavailable`; and
  - a `distinguishedName` attribute having as value the distinguished name of the DSA.
- b) If the reply is to be returned to an LDAP client, an LDAP result with `resultCode` set to `unavailable` shall be returned to the requester.

### 17.3.7 Output processing

In the final phase of **Request Validation** the validated input, transformed by addition of `ChainingArguments` if received from a DUA or an LDAP client, or the update of `ChainingArguments.traceInformation` if received from a DSA, is returned and employed as input to the **Name Resolution** procedure.

## 18 Name Resolution procedure

### 18.1 Introduction

This clause describes the **Name Resolution** procedure, its Arguments, Results, and its possible Error conditions. As shown in Figure 6 (**Operation Dispatcher**), the **Name Resolution** procedure consists of two procedures:

- **Find DSE** procedure;
- **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure.

The **Find DSE** procedure is described in three flow charts, namely **Find DSE**, **Target Found**, and **Target Not Found**. The **Find DSE** procedure matches the target entry name to locally stored DSEs, component by component. If the target entry is found locally, then **Find DSE** continues with the **Target Found** sub-procedure, which then calls the **Check Suitability** procedure to check the suitability of the found DSE for evaluation. If the target entry is not found locally, then **Find DSE** continues with the **Target Not Found** sub-procedure prepares Continuation Reference(s) to be added to the **NRcontinuationList** for the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure to dispatch it.

### 18.2 Find DSE procedure parameters

#### 18.2.1 Arguments

The procedure uses the following arguments:

- a) `ChainingArguments.aliasDereferenced;`
- b) `ChainingArguments.aliasedRDNs;`
- c) `ChainingArguments.excludeShadows;`
- d) `ChainingArguments.nameResolveOnMaster;`
- e) `ChainingArguments.operationProgress (nameResolutionPhase, nextRDNToBeResolved);`
- f) `ChainingArguments.referenceType;`
- g) `ChainingArguments.targetObject;`
- h) `ChainingArguments.relatedEntry;`
- i) the operation type;
- j) the operation argument.

NOTE – Where no actual values exist, default or implied values are used, as specified in clause 10.3.

#### 18.2.2 Results

There are two cases of a successful outcome from **Find DSE** (indicated by **entry suitable** or **entry unsuitable**):

The first successful case returns (from the **Target Not Found** sub-procedure) Continuation Reference(s) in **NRcontinuationList** which is then passed on to the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure to continue the Name Resolution phase.

The second successful case returns (from the **Target Found** sub-procedure) a (reference to a) DSE, which is passed to one of the Evaluation procedures.

#### 18.2.3 Errors

The following errors may be returned to a DUA (or DSA):

- a) `serviceError` with problems: `unableToProceed`, `invalidReference`, `unavailableCriticalExtension`, `requestedServiceNotAvailable`;
- b) `nameError` with problems: `noSuchObject`, `aliasDereferencingProblem`.

LDAP results with the following `resultCode` may be returned to an LDAP client:

- a) `noSuchObject`;
- b) `unavailableCriticalExtension`;
- c) `aliasDereferencingProblem`.

### 18.2.4 Global variables

The procedure uses the following global variables:

- **NRcontinuationList** list to store the Continuation Reference(s) needed to continue name resolution in the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure.

### 18.2.5 Local and shared variables

The procedure uses the following local variables:

- a) **i** Index used to identify the component of the target name being worked on.
- b) **m** The length of the target object name to be used in name resolution. For operations that name resolve to the parent entry, i.e., Add Entry, **m** is set to (the number of RDNs in the target object) – 1. For all other operations, **m** is set to the number of RDNs in the target object.
- c) **lastEntryFound** Index, so that DSE(lastEntryFound) is the last matched DSE that is of type **entry**.
- d) **lastCP** Index, so that DSE(lastCP) is the last shadowed context prefix encountered.
- e) **candidateRefs** A set of continuation references.

The shared variable **admPoints** (defined in **Operation Dispatcher**) is also used. For convenience, component **i** of the target object name is denoted as **N(i)**.

### 18.3 Procedures

NOTE – Some of the text in the flow charts is only relevant to specific operations. This is not shown in the flow charts, but is described in the accompanying text.

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18.3.1 Find DSE procedure

See Figure 9.

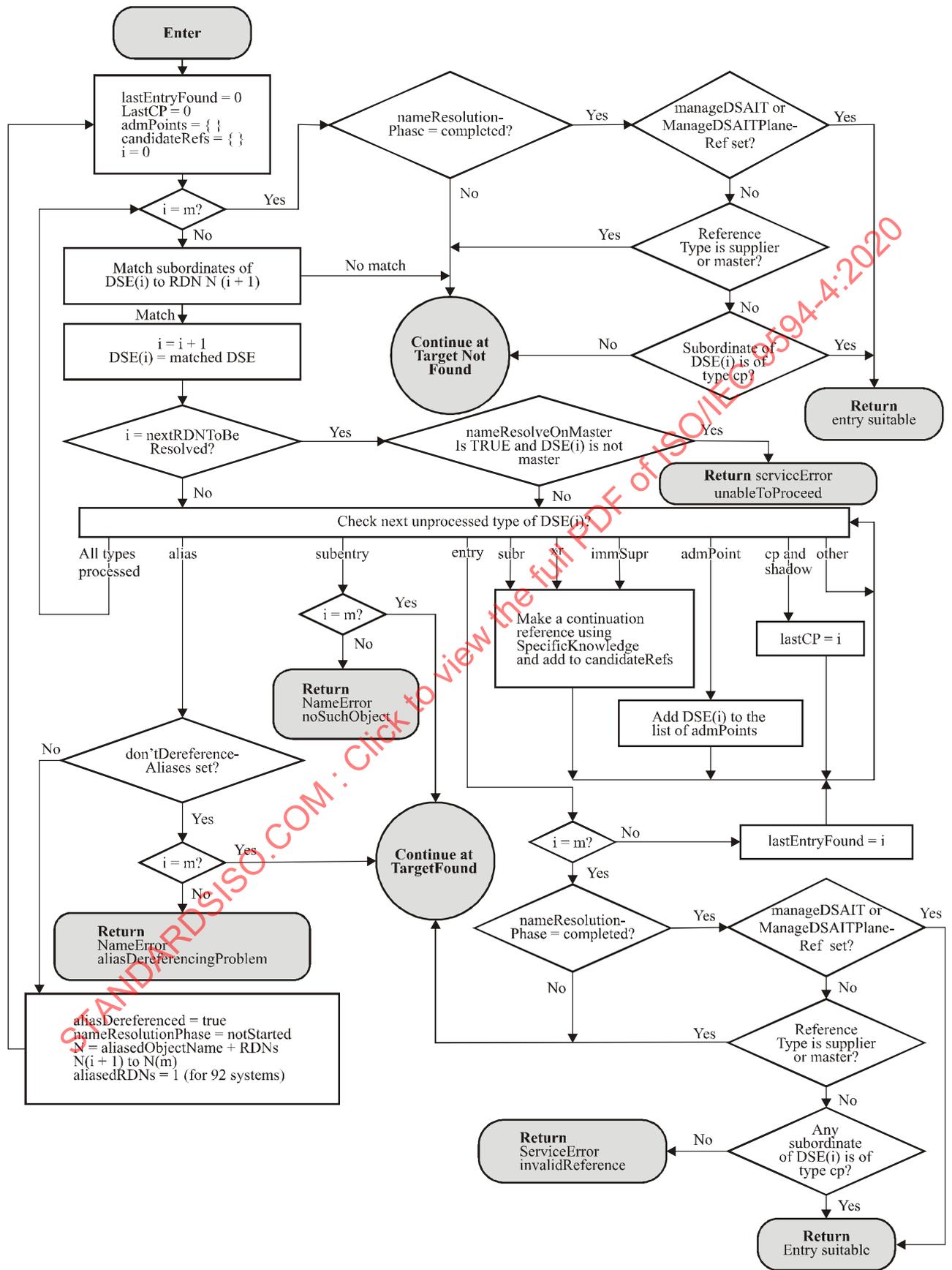


Figure 9 – Find DSE procedure

The target object name is determined as follows:

- a) If the **targetObject** component is present in the **ChainingArguments**, the value of that component is used.
- b) If the **relatedEntry**, but not the **targetObject**, is present in the **ChainingArguments**, the **baseObject** component of the **JoinArgument** identified by the **relatedEntry** is used.  
NOTE 1 – This is only relevant for a protected **search** request.
- c) If neither the **relatedEntry** nor the **targetObject** is present in the **ChainingArguments**, the **base** (**baseObject**) component of the operation argument is used.

This procedure attempts to resolve the target object name locally.

- 1) Initialize the local variables **lastEntryFound** and **lastCP** to **0**; **admPoints** and **candidateRefs** to an empty set, and initialize **i** to **0**.
- 2) Compare **i** and **m**. If they are not equal, then continue at step 5).
- 3) If they are equal, check if **nameResolutionPhase** is **completed**. If not **completed**, continue at **Target Not Found** sub-procedure.

If the **nameResolutionPhase** is **completed** and the **manageDSAIT** critical extension is set, then return with **entry suitable**.

- 4) If **nameResolutionPhase** is **completed**, then check if any immediate subordinate of DSE(i) is a context prefix (of type **cp**).
  - If one (or more) immediate subordinate DSE(s) is of type **cp**, then return with **entry suitable**.  
NOTE 2 – This case is for **List (II)** and **Search (II)** subrequests.
  - If no immediate subordinates of DSE(i) are of type **cp**, then continue at **Target Not Found** sub-procedure.
- 5) Try to find a match for the (**i + 1**)-th component of the target object name with the name of a subordinate of the last matched DSE. In the case of **i = 0**, try to match one of the DSEs immediately subordinate to the root DSE. If no match can be found, continue at **Target Not Found** sub-procedure. If a match is found, increment **i**, and store the matched DSE as the **i**-th element in the vector of found DSEs.
- 6) If **i** equals **nextRDNTToBeResolved**, then check if the following two conditions are both met:
  - the **ChainingArgument.nameResolveOnMaster** is **TRUE**;
  - DSE(i) is not a master entry.

If both conditions are met, then return **serviceError** with problem **unableToProceed**.

NOTE 3 – This indicates the use of **nameResolveOnMaster** to avoid multiple paths to the same target object.

- 7) Check all the DSE type bits of DSE(i). For each type bit, some processing is potentially required. The action to take for each type found is given below:
  - If both the **cp** and **shadow** bits are set, then remember the index **i** in **lastCP**.
  - If the **admPoint** bit is set, check the **administrativeRole** operational attribute. If this is the start of an autonomous administrative area, then empty the **admPoints** list. If this is the start of one or more specific administrative areas, then check the **admPoints** list and remove any existing points that are no longer relevant (i.e., their roles have been superseded by the new administrative point). Store DSE (i) in the list.
  - If one of the **subr**, **xr**, **immSupr**, or **ditBridge** bits is set, then generate a continuation reference using the **specificKnowledge** attribute with **operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** set to **proceeding**, **nextRDNTToBeResolved** set to **i**, and **accessPoints** and **referenceType** set as appropriate. Add the continuation reference to the list of continuation references in **candidateRefs**.
  - If the **entry** bit is set, then test for **i** equal to **m** (and therefore the target object name being completely matched). If **i** does not equal **m**, then remember the found entry by setting **lastEntryFound** to **i** and continue processing the type bits of DSE(i). If **i** and **m** are equal, continue at step 8).
  - If the **subentry** bit is set, then test for **i** equal to **m** (and therefore the target object name being completely matched). If they are equal, then continue at **Target Found** procedure; if they are not equal, then return a **nameError** with problem **noSuchObject**.
  - If the **alias** bit is set, test if **dontDereferenceAliases** is set.

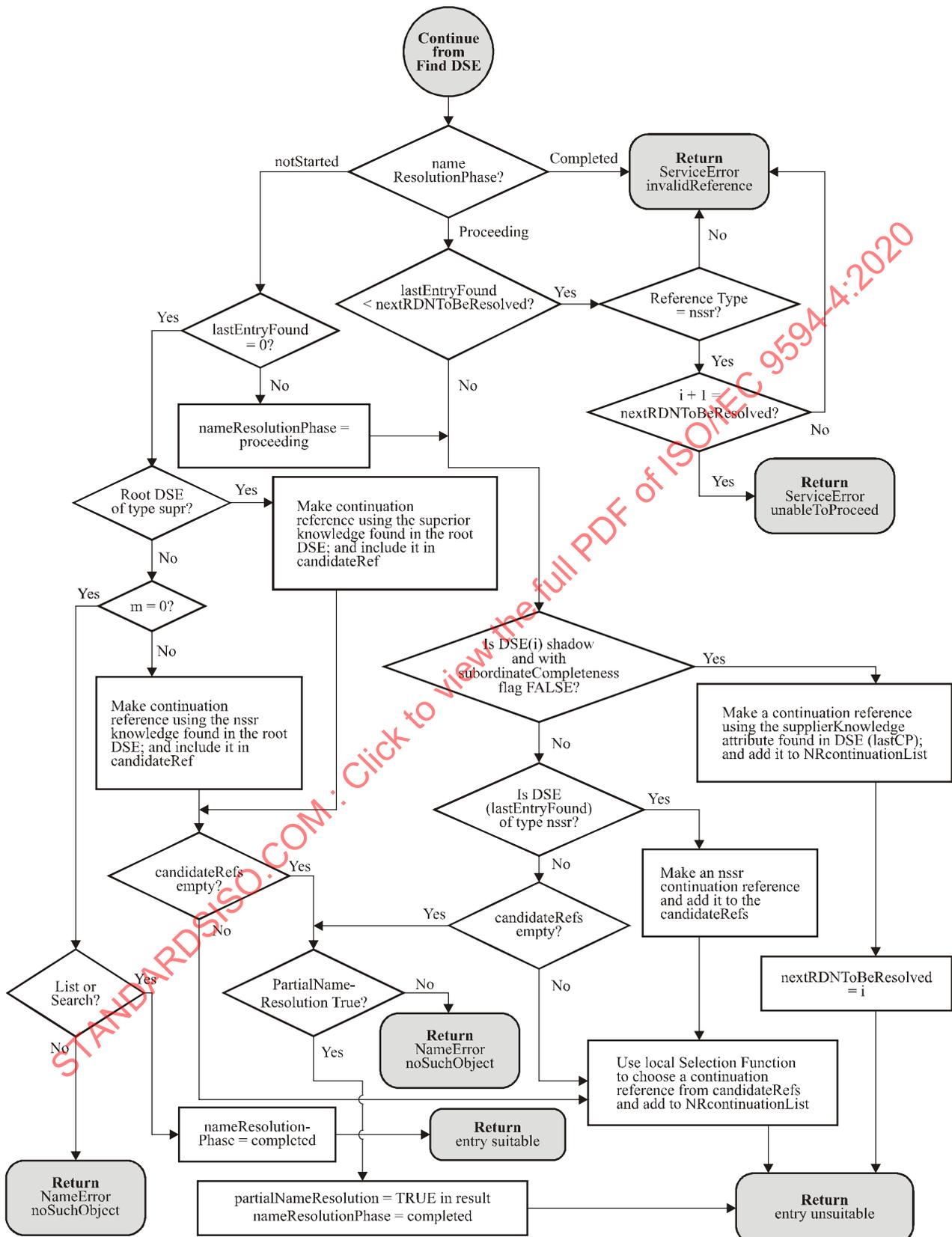
- If **dontDereferenceAliases** is not set, the alias can be dereferenced. Therefore, set **chainingArguments.aliasDereferenced** to **TRUE**, **nameResolutionPhase** to **notStarted**, the name of the target object to the **aliasedEntryName** as supplied in the alias entry concatenated with the remaining unmatched components of the previous target object name (i.e., concatenate with the (i + 1)-th to m-th component of the previous target object name). DSAs do not set **aliasedRDNs** (whereas DSAs based on Rec. CCITT X.518 (1988) | ISO/IEC 9594-4:1990 set **aliasedRDNs** to the number of RDNs in **aliasedEntryName**). Start Name Resolution again by continuing at step 1).
  - If **dontDereferenceAliases** is set, then the alias cannot be dereferenced. Check if the target object name has been processed completely by comparing **i** and **m** for equality. If they are equal (and the name therefore fully matched), then continue at **Target Found** sub-procedure. If they are not equal (and the name therefore not fully matched), then return **nameError** with problem **aliasDereferencingProblem**.
  - For all other possible DSE types, no action is needed. Internally mark that DSE type as processed and continue processing the still unprocessed DSE type bits of the DSE(i).
  - If all type bits of DSE(i) are processed, then continue at step 2).
- 8) Check if **nameResolutionPhase** is **completed**. If it is not, then continue at **Target Found** sub-procedure.
  - 9) If the **nameResolutionPhase** is already **completed** and the **managedSAIT** critical extension is set, then return with **entry suitable**.
  - 10) Otherwise, check if any of the DSEs immediately subordinate to DSE(i) is a Context Prefix (and therefore of type **cp**). If there is (one or more), return **entry suitable**. If none of the immediate subordinate entries is of type Context Prefix, then return a **serviceError** with problem **invalidReference**.

NOTE 6 – This case is for **List (II)** and **Search (II)** subrequests.

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18.3.2 Target Not Found sub-procedure

See Figure 10.



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Figure 10 – Target Not Found sub-procedure

This sub-procedure is called when the target object name is not found in the local DSA. This sub-procedure determines the best type of knowledge reference to use to continue name resolution, unless an error is detected in which case the error is returned.

- 1) When continuing from **Find DSE** procedure, distinguish between the three possible phases of the Name Resolution phase.
  - If `nameResolutionPhase` is `notStarted`, continue at step 2).
  - If `nameResolutionPhase` is `proceeding`, continue at step 8).
  - If `nameResolutionPhase` is `completed`, continue at step 12).
- 2) If an entry was found (**lastEntryFound** not equal to 0), set **nameResolutionPhase** to **proceeding** and continue at step 9).
- 3) If no entry was found (**lastEntryFound=0**), then check if the DSA is a First Level DSA.
 

If it is a First Level DSA, then the root DSE does not contain a Superior Reference and therefore is not of type **supr**. In this case, continue at step 4).

If the DSA is not a First Level DSA, then the root DSE contains a Superior Reference and therefore is of type **supr**. In this case, generate a Continuation Reference using the superior knowledge as found in the root DSE. Set:

  - `targetObject` to the name of the target object;
  - `operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase` to `notStarted`;
  - `referenceType` to `superior`; and
  - `accessPoints` as appropriate.

Add the Continuation Reference to the list of Continuation References in **candidateRefs**. Continue at step 6).
- 4) Check if the operation was directed to the root entry (**m = 0?**). If it was, continue at step 5). If it was not, generate a Continuation Reference using any NSSR knowledge found in the root DSE. Set:
  - `targetObject` to the name of the target object;
  - `operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase` to `proceeding`;
  - `operationProgress.nextRDNTToBeResolved` to 1;
  - `referenceType` to `nonSpecificSubordinate`; and
  - `accessPoints` as appropriate.

Add the Continuation Reference to the list of Continuation References in **candidateRefs**. Continue at step 6).
- 5) At a First Level DSA, only List or Search operations may be performed with the root entry as base object. Therefore, if the operation was not a List or Search operation, return **nameError** with problem **noSuchObject**. If it was a List or Search operation, set **nameResolutionPhase** to **completed** and return with **entry suitable**.
- 6) Check if there are any Continuation References in **candidateRefs**. If **candidateRefs** is empty and **partialNameResolution** is **FALSE**, return **nameError** with problem **noSuchObject**. If **candidateRefs** is empty and **partialNameResolution** is **TRUE**, then in the result set **partialName** to **TRUE**, **nameResolutionPhase** to **completed**, and return with **entry suitable**. Otherwise, continue at step 7).
- 7) Use a local selection function to choose a Continuation Reference from the list of Continuation References in **candidateRefs**, add it to the list of Continuation References in **NRcontinuationList** and return with **entry unsuitable**.
- 8) If the DSA was unable to proceed with Name Resolution (in which case **lastEntryFound** is less than **nextRDNTToBeResolved**), continue at step 11). Otherwise, continue with next step.
- 9) If DSE(i) is a shadow DSE with incomplete subordinate knowledge (**subordinateCompletenessFlag** is **FALSE**), then generate a Continuation Reference from the **supplierKnowledge** attribute found in **DSE(lastCP)**. Set:
  - `targetObject` to the name of the target object;
  - `operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase` to `proceeding`;
  - `operationProgress.nextRDNTToBeResolved` to `lastEntryFound`;
  - `referenceType` to `supplier`; and

- **accessPoints** as appropriate.

Add the Continuation Reference to the list of Continuation References in **NRcontinuationList**, and return with **entry unsuitable**.

- 10) If the last entry found contains an NSSR (**DSE(lastEntryFound)** is of type **nssr**), then generate a Continuation Reference from the NSSR knowledge found in **DSE(lastEntryFound)**. Set:

- **targetObject** to the name of the target object;
- **operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** to **proceeding**;
- **operationProgress.nextRDNTToBeResolved** to **lastEntryFound+1**;
- **referenceType** to **nonSpecificSubordinate**; and
- **accessPoints** as appropriate.

Add the Continuation Reference to the list of Continuation References in **candidateRefs**. Continue at step 7).

If **DSE(lastEntryFound)** is not of type **nssr**, then continue at step 6).

- 11) If **chainingArguments.referenceType** is of type **nssr**, then continue at step 13), otherwise at step 12).
- 12) Return **serviceError** with problem **invalidReference**.
- 13) If **i + 1** is equal to **nextRDNTToBeResolved**, then the request was routed here due to an NSSR and the DSA is unable to proceed with name resolution; in this case, return **serviceError** with problem **unableToProceed**; otherwise, continue at step 12).

### 18.3.3 Target Found sub-procedure

This sub-procedure is entered when the target object name matches with an entry DSE locally. This sub-procedure checks if the found entry is suitable for processing the request locally (it is shown in Figure 11):

- 1) Call the Check Suitability procedure.
- 2) If the entry is suitable (**entry suitable**), then do the following:
  - set **nameResolutionPhase** to **completed**;
  - return **entry suitable**.
- 3) If the entry is not suitable (**entry unsuitable**), then generate a Continuation Reference using the **supplierKnowledge** attribute found in **DSE(lastCP)**. Set:
  - **targetObject** to the name of the target object;
  - **operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** to **proceeding**;
  - **operationProgress.nextRDNTToBeResolved** to **m**;
  - **referenceType** to **supplier**; and
  - **accessPoints** as appropriate.

Add the Continuation Reference to the list of Continuation References in **NRcontinuationList**. Return **entry unsuitable**.

NOTE – If the **localScope** service control is set, however, the DSA could, based on local policies, decide to consider this entry as suitable and proceed as in step 2).

- 4) If a critical extension is not supported (**unsupported critical extension**), then return **serviceError** with problem **unavailableCriticalExtension**.

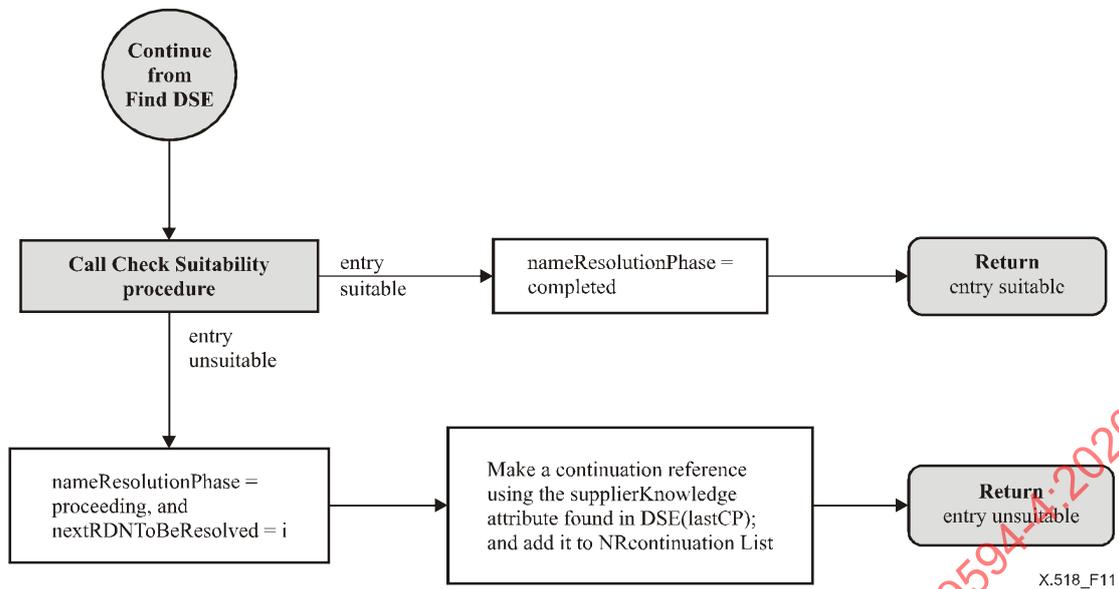
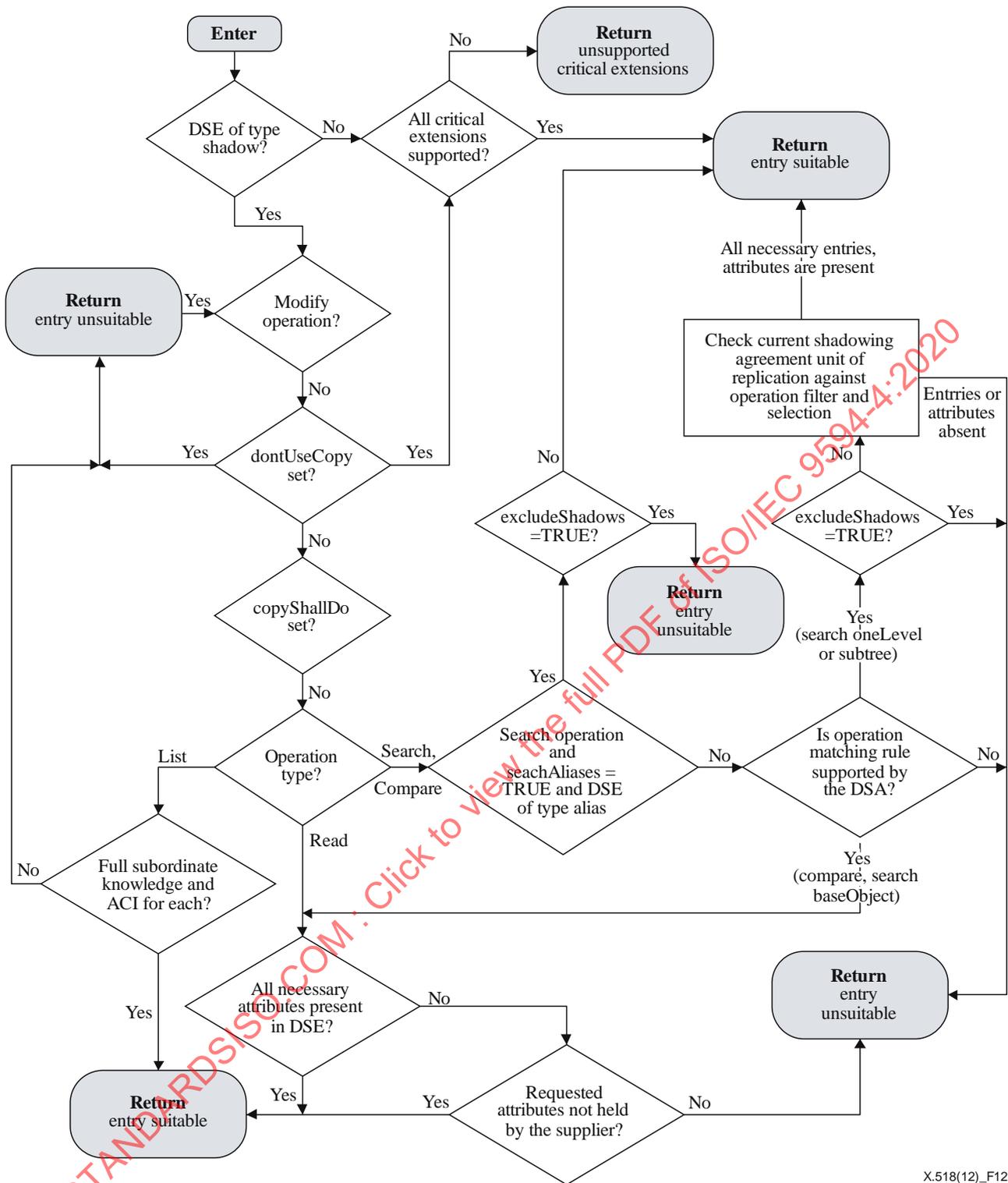


Figure 11 – Target Found sub-procedure

### 18.3.4 Check Suitability procedure

This procedure is called to decide whether a found DSE is suitable for performing the requested operation (see Figure 12). It takes into account the **ChainingArguments**, the **ServiceControls**, the arguments as supplied by the user, the operation type and the characteristics of the DSE (shadow, subordinate knowledge, attributes present, etc.).

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Figure 12 – Check Suitability procedure

18.3.4.1 Procedure parameters

The input argument to this procedure is:

- a reference to a DSE;
- the operation type for which the suitability of the DSE is to be checked;
- the **ChainingArguments**;
- the DAP operation argument; and
- the request components, if an LDAP request.

### 18.3.4.2 Procedure definition

The output is either **entry suitable**, **entry unsuitable**, or **unsupported critical extension**.

- 1) If the DSE is not of type **shadow**, then check if all **criticalExtensions** are supported. If they are, then return **entry suitable**, else return **unsupported critical extension**.
- 2) The DSE is of type **shadow**. Return **entry unsuitable**, if any of the following is true:
  - The requested operation type is a modification operation.
  - The service control **dontUseCopy** is set.
 Otherwise, continue with the next step.
- 3) If the service control **copyShallDo** is set, then check if all **criticalExtensions** are supported. If they are, then return **entry suitable**, else return **unsupported critical extension**.
- 4) If the service control **copyShallDo** is not set, then check if all **criticalExtensions** are supported. If they are, then go to step 5) else return **entry unsuitable**.
- 5) Distinguish between operation types:
  - If List operation, continue at step 6).
  - If Read operation, continue at step 7).
  - If Search or Compare operation, continue at step 8).
- 6) If the entry has full subordinate knowledge, the List operation can be performed. In this case, return **entry suitable**, otherwise, return **entry unsuitable**.
- 7) If all the requested attributes are present in the DSE, then return **entry suitable**. If some attributes are missing, then determine by local means whether the shadow copy holds all the attributes held by the master (e.g., by reference to the shadowing agreement). If they are, the entry is suitable (return **entry suitable**). Otherwise, the supplier may hold the requested attributes which are not present at the shadow; in this case, the request has to be chained (return **entry unsuitable**).
- 8) If it is a DAP **search** request with **searchAliases** set to **TRUE** or it is an LDAP **SearchRequest** with **derefInSearching** or **derefAlways** set and the DSE is of type **alias** then if **chainingArguments.excludeShadows** is **FALSE** return **entry suitable**, if it is **TRUE** return **entry unsuitable**.
- 9) If the DSA supports the matching rule for comparing or searching as requested and the operation is **compare** or **search** operation with **subset of baseObject**, then continue at step 7). If the DSA supports the matching rule and the operation is **search** with **subset oneLevel** or **subtree**, then continue at step 10). Otherwise, return **entry unsuitable**.
- 10) If **chainingArguments.excludeShadows** is **TRUE**, then return **entry unsuitable**. Otherwise, check the local understanding of the shadowed information specification against the operation filter and selection. If all necessary entries and attributes are present, then return **entry suitable**. If any entry or attribute is missing, then return **entry unsuitable**.

## 19 Operation evaluation

This clause defines the procedure that a DSA shall follow if the target entry of an operation has been found locally (during Name Resolution). According to the type of operation, one of the following procedures is invoked:

- For an **addEntry**, **chainedAddEntry**, **removeEntry**, **chainedRemoveEntry**, **modifyEntry**, **chainedModifyEntry**, **modifyDN**, **chainedModifyDN**, **changePassword**, **chainedChangePassword**, **administerPassword** or **chainedAdministerPassword** operation, the procedures in clause 19.1 shall be followed.
- For a **read**, **chainedRead**, **compare** or **chainedCompare** operation, the procedures in clause 19.2 shall be followed.
- For a **search**, **chainedSearch**, **list** or **chainedList** operation, the procedures in clause 19.3 shall be followed.

## 19.1 Modification procedures

According to the type of modification operation, the corresponding procedures defined in clauses 19.1.1 to 19.1.4 shall be followed for DAP requests. Clause 19.1.5 specifies special procedures for how DAP modify operations affect NSSRs. An LDAP request embedded in an **ldapTransport** request shall be handled as specified in clause 19.1.6.

### 19.1.1 Add Entry operation

- 1) The DSA shall check that the initiator has sufficient access rights, e.g., as defined, in clause 11.1.5 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. If not, an appropriate error is returned.
- 2) The DSA shall assure that an entry with the name of the entry to be added does not already exist. Otherwise, it shall return an **updateError** with problem **entryAlreadyExists**. If the superior DSE is of additional type **nssr**, the DSA shall follow the procedure defined in clause 19.1.5 (Modify Operations and NSSRs) to ensure that the name of the new entry is unambiguous.
- 3) If **targetSystem** component of the **AddEntryArgumentData** value is present, and the **AccessPoint** is not that of the current DSA, go to step 4). If **targetSystem** component of a DAP request is not present, or it is present and the **AccessPoint** is that of the current DSA, go to step 5).
- 4) If the entry is a subentry, the DSA shall return **updateError** with problem **affectsMultipleDSAs**. If the entry is not a subentry, the DSA has a local choice as to whether or not it wishes to establish an HOB with the specified DSA. If it does not, the DSA shall return **serviceError** with problem **unwillingToPerform**; otherwise, the DSA shall establish a hierarchical operational binding (HOB) with the specified subordinate DSA. If the DOP is supported, the procedure in clause 24.3.1.1 shall be followed. Otherwise, local means are used to establish the HOB. If the subordinate DSA is unwilling to establish the operational binding, a **serviceError** with problem **unwillingToPerform** is returned for the **addEntry** operation. If the HOB is successfully established, continue at step 7).

NOTE 1 – This step of the procedure does not apply to the creation of autonomous administrative areas in a subordinate DSA.

- 5) The DSA shall ensure that the new entry conforms to the sub-schema, or that the new subentry or DSE of other types conform to the system schema (e.g., that the immediate superior DSE of a subentry is of type **admPoint**). If not, it shall return an appropriate **updateError** or **attributeError**, else it shall add the new DSE. If entry, continue at step 7). If subentry, continue at step 6). Otherwise, appropriate knowledge management procedures for the other types of DSE are executed. See Section 6.
- 6) The DSA shall forward, at an appropriate time, a modify operational binding to all relevant subordinate DSAs with which it has hierarchical or non-specific hierarchical operational bindings. The relevant bindings are those which are associated with naming contexts that are subordinate to the superior DSE. Naming contexts whose context prefixes correspond to autonomous administrative points are not relevant. If the DOP is supported, the procedures in clauses 24.3.2.1 and 25.3.2 shall be followed. If the DOP is not supported, local means shall be used to modify the RHOBs.

NOTE 2 – An appropriate time is specified by the DSA administrator, and might range from immediately after (or even before) the operation result is returned to a periodic strategy (e.g., at an appointed hour). The time may vary depending upon the reason for the modification, e.g., updates to ACI taking immediate effect and changes to schema being done periodically.

- 7) If the added entry or subentry is within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more shadowing agreements, then the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory information shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

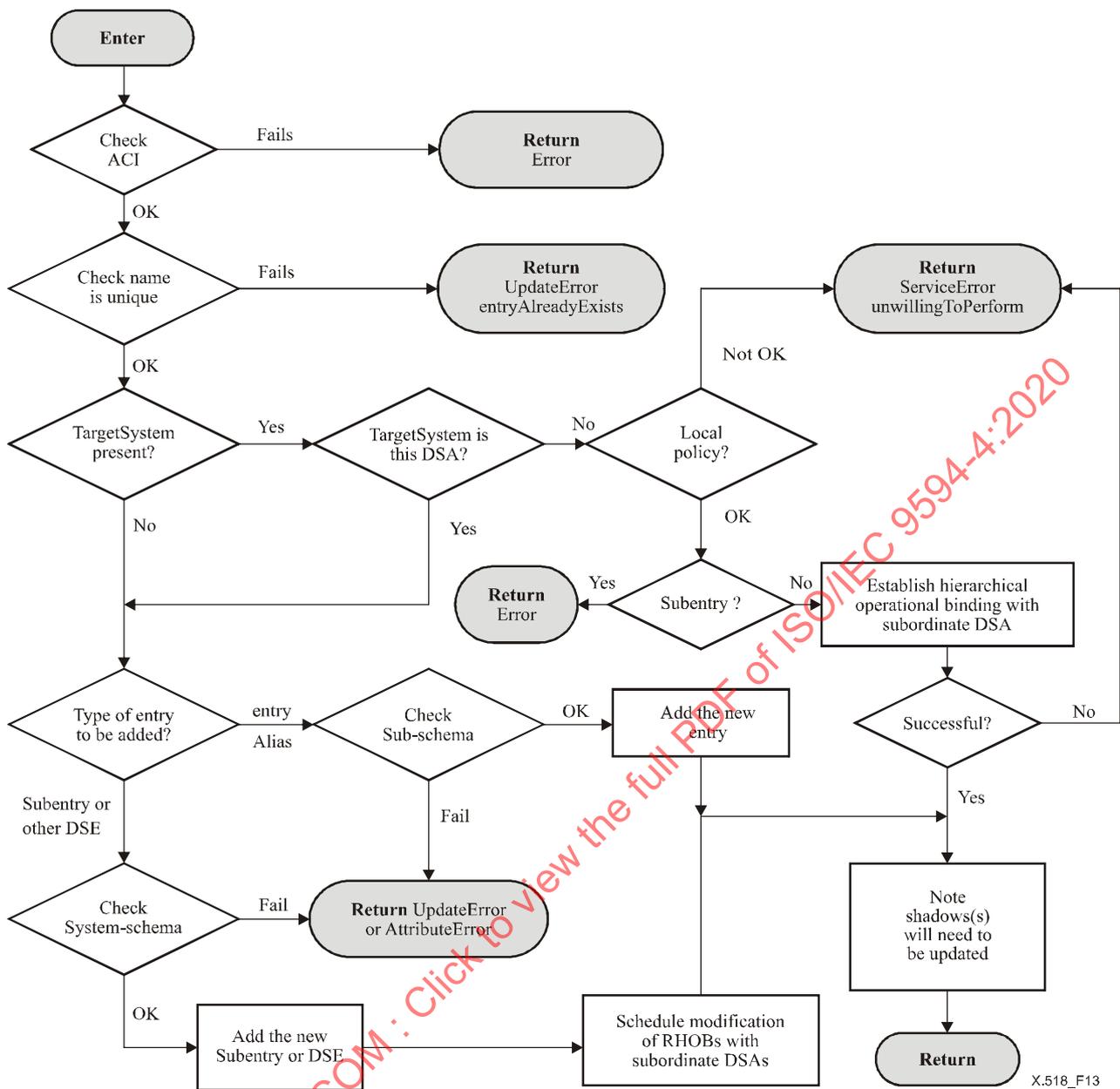


Figure 13 – DAP Add Entry procedure

19.1.2 Remove Entry operation

- 1) The DSA shall check that the initiator has sufficient access rights, e.g., as defined, in clause 11.2.5 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. If not, an appropriate error is returned.
- 2) The DSA shall ensure that the entry to be removed is a leaf entry. Otherwise, the DSA shall return an **updateError** with problem **notAllowedOnNonLeaf**.
- 3) The DSE type of the entry to be removed is checked. If **subentry**, continue at step 5). If **cp**, continue at step 6). If **entry** or **alias**, continue at step 4). Otherwise, appropriate knowledge management procedures for the other types of DSE are executed. See Section 6.
- 4) Remove the entry or alias entry and continue at step 7).
- 5) Remove the subentry. At an appropriate time, modify the operational bindings of all relevant subordinate DSAs with which the current DSA has hierarchical or non-specific hierarchical operational bindings. The relevant bindings are those which are associated with naming contexts subordinate to the superior DSE. Naming contexts whose context prefixes correspond to autonomous administrative points are not relevant. If the DOP is supported, the procedures in clauses 24.3.2.1 and 25.3.2 shall be followed. Otherwise, local means shall be used. Continue at step 7).

- 6) Remove the naming context. If the DSA has a hierarchical operational binding for this naming context, it shall terminate the hierarchical operational binding with its immediately superior DSA. If the DSA has a non-specific hierarchical operational binding for this naming context, and this is the last naming context of the non-specific hierarchical operational binding, then it shall terminate the non-specific hierarchical operational binding with its immediately superior DSA. If the DOP is supported, the procedures in clauses 24.3.3.2 and 25.3.3.2 shall be followed. Otherwise, local means are used to terminate the RHOB.
- 7) If the removed naming context, entry, alias entry or subentry was within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more shadowing agreements, then the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory information shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

If the removed subordinate or non-specific subordinate reference in the immediately superior DSA (whose RHOB was terminated), was within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more shadowing agreements, then the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory information shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

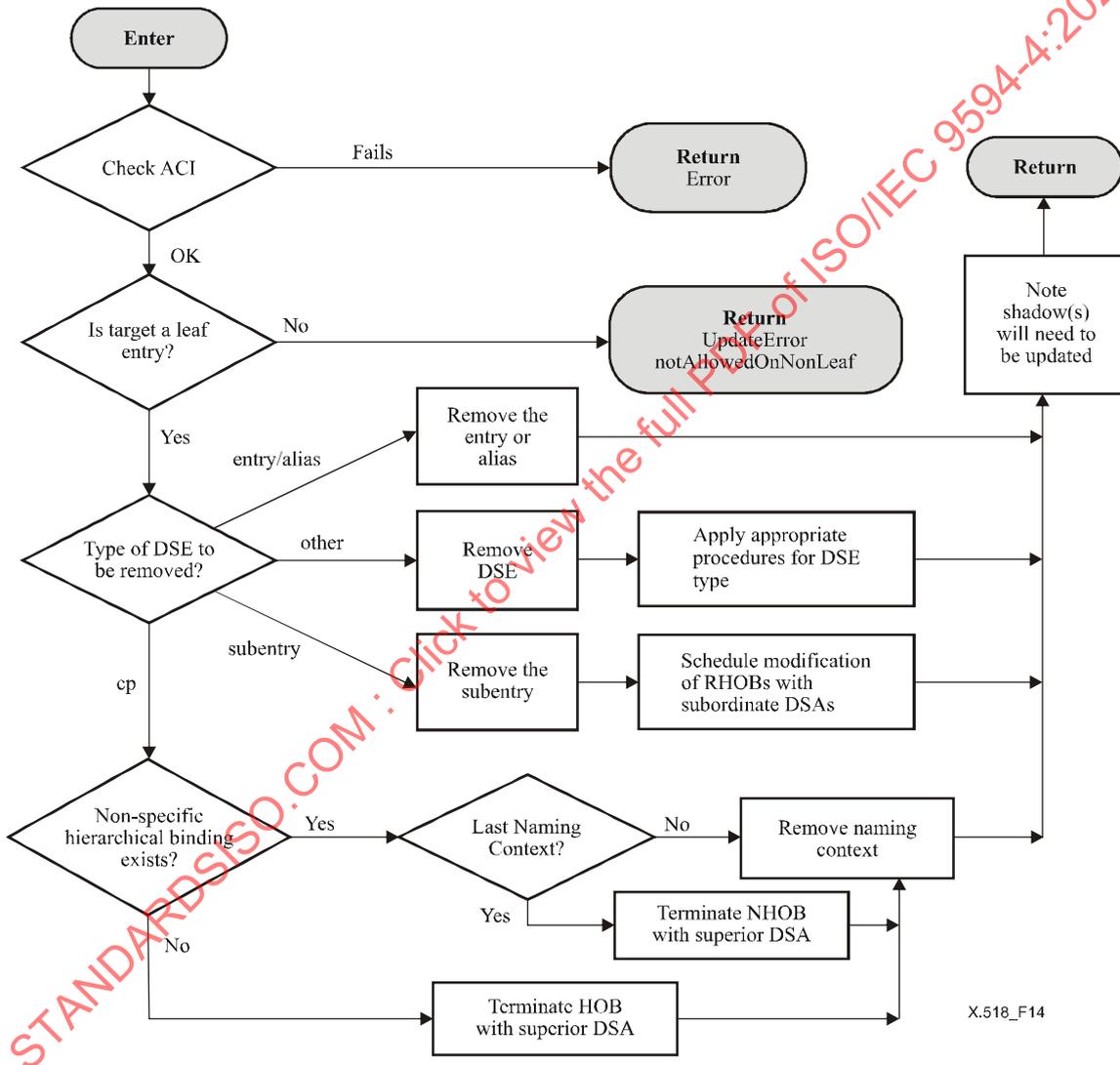


Figure 14 – DAP Remove Entry procedure

### 19.1.3 Modify Entry, Change Password and Administer Password operations

- 1) The DSA shall check that the initiator has access rights, e.g., as defined, in clause 11.3.5 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. If not, an appropriate error is returned.
- 2) The modifications to the entry or alias shall conform to the sub-schema. The modification to a DSE of other types, including subentry, shall conform to the system schema. Otherwise, the DSA shall return an appropriate **updateError** or **attributeError**. After performing the modifications, if the target DSE is of type **subentry**, continue at step 3); if the target DSE is of type **entry** or **alias**, continue at step 4); otherwise, appropriate knowledge management procedures for the other types of DSE are executed. See Section 6.

- 3) The DSA shall, at an appropriate time, modify the operational bindings with all relevant subordinate DSAs with which it has hierarchical or non-specific hierarchical operational bindings. The relevant bindings are those which are associated with naming contexts that are subordinate to the administrative point that the modified subentry is located below. Naming contexts whose context prefixes correspond to autonomous administrative points are not relevant. If the DOP is supported, the procedure in clauses 24.3.2.1 and 25.3.2 shall be followed. Otherwise, local means are used.
- 4) If the modified entry, alias entry or subentry was within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more shadowing agreements, then the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory information shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

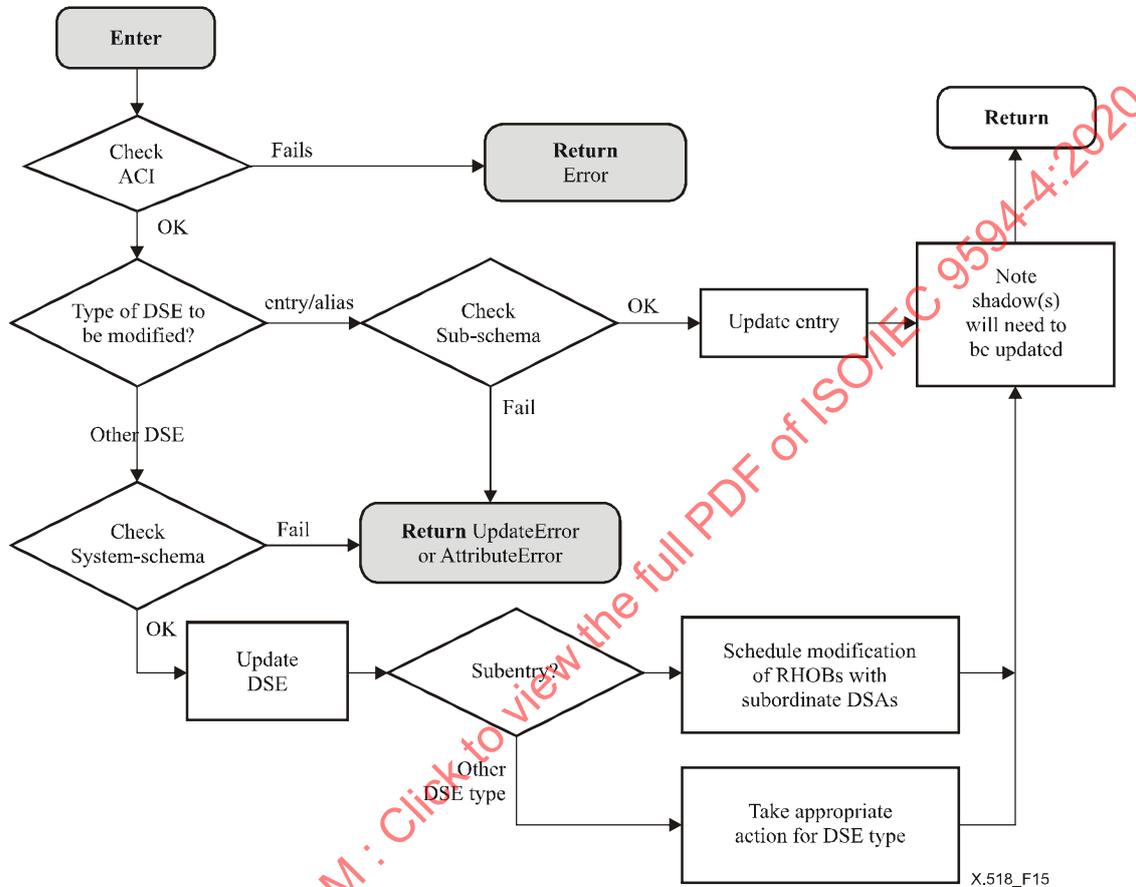


Figure 15 – DAP Modify Entry procedure

#### 19.1.4 Modify DN operation

- 1) The DSA shall check that the initiator has sufficient access rights, e.g., as defined in clause 11.4.5 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. If not, an appropriate error is returned.
- 2) If the operation is either to move an entry or to both move an entry and change its Relative Distinguished Name, go to step 3). If the operation is to only change the Relative Distinguished Name of an entry, go to step 4).
- 3) The operation shall be performed according to the definition in clause 11.4.1 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. If either the old superior, the new superior, the entry or any of its subordinates are not in this DSA, or if the new superior has NSSRs, then the operation shall be rejected with **updateError** with problem **affectsMultipleDSAs**. The DSA shall ensure that no other entry with the new name already exists. Otherwise, it shall return an **updateError** with problem **entryAlreadyExists**. The DSA shall ensure that the new name of the entry conforms to the subschema. Otherwise, it shall return an appropriate **attributeError** or **updateError**. If none of these problems arise, then move the entry (changing the RDN if required) and go to step 9).
- 4) The following text is applicable to changing the relative distinguished name of an entry, which may or may not be a leaf entry, and which may or may not have one or more subordinates in one or more DSAs. The DSE type of the entry to be renamed is checked. If **subentry**, continue at step 7). If **cp**, continue at step 6). If **entry** or **alias**, continue at step 5).

- 5) The DSA shall ensure that no other entry with the new name already exists. Otherwise, it shall return an **updateError** with problem **entryAlreadyExists**. If the superior DSE of the entry to be renamed is of additional type **nssr**, the DSA shall follow the procedure defined in clause 19.1.5 (Modify Operations and NSSRs) to ensure that the new name of the entry is unambiguous. The DSA shall ensure that the new name of the entry conforms to the subschema. Otherwise, it shall return an appropriate **attributeError** or **updateError**. Rename the entry or alias entry. If the entry is a non-leaf entry and has subordinates in other DSAs, continue at step 8), otherwise, continue at step 9).

- 6) The DSA shall ensure that the new name of the naming context conforms to the subschema; otherwise, it shall return an appropriate **attributeError** or **updateError**.

If the DSA has an HOB with the superior DSA, then the subordinate DSA shall attempt to modify the HOB before responding to the Modify DN operation. The superior DSA shall ensure that no other entry with the new name already exists, before accepting the modification. If the DOP is supported, the procedure in clauses 24.3.2.2 shall be followed. If the DOP is not supported, it is a local matter how the HOB is modified and the new name is checked for uniqueness. If the HOB is successfully modified, and the naming context has subordinate naming contexts in other DSAs, go to step 8); otherwise, go to step 9). If the HOB cannot be modified, return **updateError** with problem **affectsMultipleDSAs**.

If the DSA has an NHOB for this naming context with the superior DSA, then how duplicate entries are detected is outside the scope of this Directory Specification. Rename the entry. If the naming context has subordinate naming contexts in other DSAs, go to step 8); otherwise, go to step 9).

- 7) The DSA shall ensure that the new name of the subentry conforms to the system schema. Otherwise, it shall return an appropriate **attributeError** or **updateError**. The DSA shall ensure that no other subentry with the new name already exists. Otherwise, it shall return an **updateError** with problem **entryAlreadyExists**.
- 8) The DSA shall, at an appropriate time, modify the operational bindings of all relevant subordinate DSAs with which it has hierarchical or non-specific hierarchical operational bindings. The relevant bindings are those which are associated with all naming contexts that are subordinate to the entry being renamed, or relevant naming contexts that are subordinate to the administrative point whose subentry was renamed. Naming contexts whose context prefixes correspond to autonomous administrative points are not relevant. If the DOP is supported, the procedures in clauses 24.3.2.1 and 25.3.2 shall be followed. Otherwise, local means shall be used to update the RHOBs.
- 9) If the renamed naming context, entry or any of its subordinates, alias entry or subentry is within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more shadowing agreements held by the DSA, then the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory information shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

If the entry, alias entry or subentry was within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more shadowing agreements held by the DSA, and the superior of the renamed entry, alias entry or subentry is not within this **UnitOfReplication**, the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9; in this case the shadowed entry and all its subordinates shall be removed.

If the entry, alias entry or subentry was not within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more shadowing agreements held by the DSA, and the renamed entry, alias entry or subentry is now within this **UnitOfReplication**, the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9; in this case the shadowed entry and all its subordinates shall be shadowed.

If the renamed subordinate reference in the immediately superior DSA [whose HOB was modified in step 6) above] is within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more of its shadowing agreements, then the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory information shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

If components of an RHOB with a subordinate DSA [as modified in step 8) above] are within the **UnitOfReplication** of one or more shadowing agreements held by the subordinate DSA, then the shadow consumers shall be updated using the procedures of the Directory information shadow service specified in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

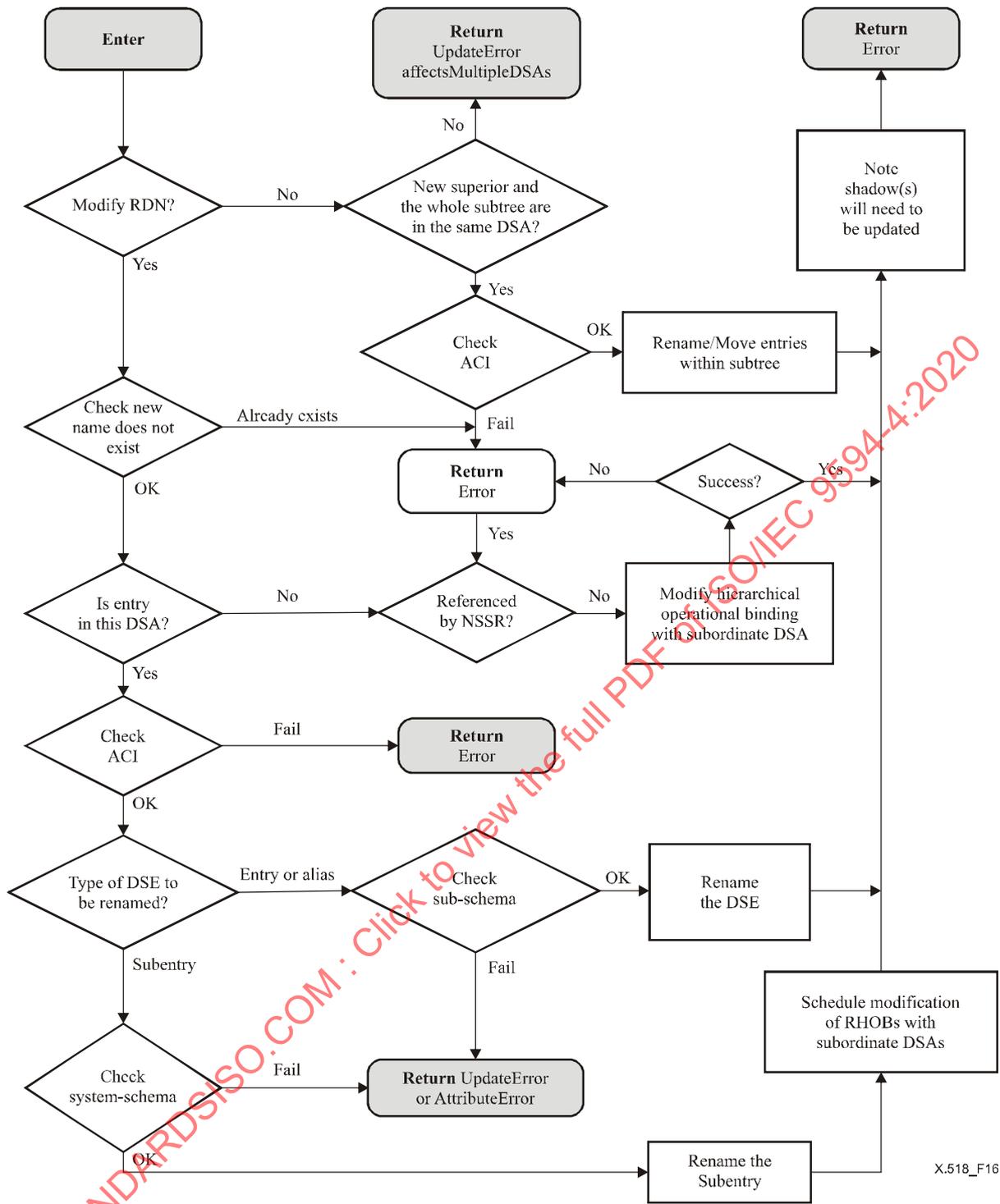


Figure 16 – DAP Modify DN procedure

19.1.5 Modify operations and non-specific subordinate references

If a DSA has NSSRs and does not know the complete set of names of the subordinates of an entry, to which either:

- a) an **addEntry** operation has been directed, or
- b) a **modifyDN** operation has been directed;

then the DSA may perform the following set of procedures prior to performing the operation.

- 1) If the **chainingProhibited** service control option is set on the **addEntry** or **modifyDN** operation, return **updateError** with problem **affectsMultipleDSAs**.
- 2) If the DSA is unwilling or unable to multi-chain outgoing requests, return **serviceError** with problem **unwillingToPerform** or **unavailable**, respectively.
- 3) The DSA shall multi-chain a **chainedReadEntry** operation to each master DSA in the set of **accessPointInformation** of the NSSR. (The DSA shall only use the master DSA from each **MasterAndShadowAccessPoints** due to transient inconsistency caused by shadowing.)
  - a) The components of the **ReadArgument** shall be set as follows:
    - **object** component: to either the name of the entry to be added (in the case of **addEntry**), or to the proposed name of an existing entry (in the case of **modifyDN**);
    - **selection** component: to the object class attribute.
  - b) The parameters of **CommonArguments** shall be set as follows:
    - set the **dontDereferenceAliases** service control option;
    - set **OperationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** to **completed**.
  - c) The parameters of **ChainingArguments** shall be set as follows:
    - set **originator** to the name of the requester;
    - **targetObject** is omitted;
    - set **OperationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** to **proceeding** and **nextRDNTobeResolved** to (number of RDNs in the object name) – 1;
    - set **traceInformation** to an empty sequence;
    - set **referenceType** to **nonSpecificSubordinate**;
    - **timeLimit**, as appropriate according to the incoming request.
  - d) Other parameters, e.g., **SecurityParameters**, may be set as appropriate, e.g., by local policy.
- 4) The DSA waits for the complete set of responses. If any of the response is a **ReadResult**, then an error shall be returned as in 6) below.
- 5) If all responses are **serviceError** with problem **unableToProceed**, operation evaluation may proceed.
- 6) If a **ReadResult** is returned, an **updateError** with problem **entryAlreadyExists** shall be returned for the original operation.
- 7) If any other error is returned to the **readEntry** request, a **serviceError** with problem **unwillingToPerform** shall be returned.

The DSA receiving the **chainedRead** request shall give a response according to the presence or not of the entry, and its access control policy.

### 19.1.6 LDAP Modify operations

This procedure shall be executed when an **ldapTransport** request holding an LDAP update request has reached the evaluation phase.

NOTE – An LDAP modify operation handled by the bound DSA is specified fully by the LDAP specifications and therefore outside the scope of this Directory Specification,

An LDAP request carried by an **ldapTransport** request is unpacked and processed according to the LDAP specifications. However, there are some additional considerations depending on the setting of the **CommonArguments** value and the **ChainingArguments** value.

- a) If the **target** component of the **SecurityParameters** (see clause 7.10 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3) in the request is set to **signed** and a result is to be returned, the result may be signed. Otherwise, the result shall not be signed.
- b) The DSA shall ensure that the requester has sufficient access according to the type of operation. If not, return an LDAP response with **resultCode** equal to **insufficientAccessRights**.

## 19.2 Single entry interrogation procedure

The operations **read**, **chainedRead**, **compare**, and **chainedCompare** fall into the group of single entry interrogation procedures. These procedures contain only the following three steps:

- 1) Check access control, as described in clause 9 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. If the operation is disallowed, return the appropriate security error.
- 2) Perform the operation on the found DSE as described in clause 9 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.
- 3) Prepare the reply, and return.

## 19.3 Multiple entry interrogation procedure

According to the type of interrogation operation (**list** or **search**), the corresponding procedures defined in clauses 19.3.1 and 19.3.2 shall be followed.

### 19.3.1 List procedures

This clause specifies the evaluation procedure specific to **list** and **chainedList** operations.

The **List (I)** procedure shall be followed when the List request's **operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** component is set to **notStarted** or **proceeding** and when the DSA, after performing Name Resolution, finds that it holds the base object. The **List (II)** procedure shall be followed when the List request's **nameResolutionPhase** component is set to **completed**.

#### 19.3.1.1 Procedure parameters

##### 19.3.1.1.1 Arguments

The arguments that are used by this procedure are:

- the **ListArgument**;
- the target DSE **e**;
- **operationProgress** of the **chainingArgument**.

##### 19.3.1.1.2 Results

If this procedure is successfully executed, it returns:

- a set of subordinates of **e** in **listInfo.subordinates**;
- **limitProblem** indicated in **partialOutcomeQualifier**;
- a set of continuation references in **SRcontinuationList**.

#### 19.3.1.2 Procedure definition

##### 19.3.1.2.1 List (I) procedure

The **List (I)** procedure consists of the following steps as depicted in Figure 17:

- 1) If the service control **subentry** is set, then go to step 5); otherwise, go to step 2).
- 2) If DSE **e** is of type **nssr**, then add a Continuation Reference to **SRcontinuationList** with the following components:
  - **targetObject** shall be set to the DSE **e**;
  - **aliasedRDNs** absent;
  - **operationProgress** with **nameResolutionPhase** set to **completed** and **nextRDNTtoBeResolved** absent;
  - **rdnsResolved** absent;
  - **referenceType** set to **nonSpecificSubordinate**;
  - **accessPoints** set to a set of **accessPointInformation** each derived from a value of the **nonSpecificKnowledge** attribute of DSE **e**.

- 3) For each DSE **e'** immediately subordinate to DSE **e** execute the following steps:
- a) Check the ACI in **e'** if available. If the ACI disallows listing the RDN of **e'**, then skip this DSE. If the ACI is not available (for example in the case of subordinate references and glue), then it is a local policy whether to proceed.
  - b) Check all the DSE types of **e'**.
    - i) If **e'** is of type **subr**, then there are two cases. In the first case, the subordinate entry's ACI and object class is available locally, in which case, based on local policy and the ACI's permission, add the RDN of **e'** to **listInfo.subordinates** with **aliasEntry** set to **TRUE** if **e'** is of type **sa**, and **fromEntry** set **FALSE**. The other case is when the ACI of the entry is not available in **e'**, in which case add a Continuation Reference to **SRcontinuationList** with the following components:
      - **targetObject** to the distinguished name of the DSE **e**;
      - **aliasedRDNs** absent;
      - **operationProgress** with **nameResolutionPhase** set to **completed** and **nextRDNtoBeResolved** absent;
      - **rdnsResolved** absent;
      - **referenceType** set to **subordinate**;
      - **accessPoints** set to the value contained in the **specificKnowledge** attribute of DSE **e'**.
    - ii) If the DSE **e'** is of type **entry** or **glue**, then add the RDN of **e'** to **listInfo.subordinates** with **aliasEntry** set to **FALSE** and **fromEntry** set according to whether **e'** is a copy.
 

NOTE – In the case that **e'** is **glue**, it must have one or more subordinates which implies it cannot be an alias in the master DSA. Also, any ACI relevant to the List operation is stored in this DSE, supplied via the shadowing protocol.
    - iii) If the DSE **e'** is of type **alias**, then add the RDN of **e'** to **listInfo.subordinates** with **aliasEntry** set to **TRUE**, and **fromEntry** set according to whether **e'** is a copy.
  - c) Check if time, size or administrative limit is exceeded. If so, set **limitProblem** accordingly in **partialOutcomeQualifier** and return.
  - d) Continue from step 3) a) until all subordinate DSEs have been processed.
- 4) If all subordinate DSEs have been processed, return to the **Operation Dispatcher**.
- 5) For each subentry **e'** immediately subordinate to DSE **e**, execute the following steps:
- a) Check the ACI in **e'**. If the ACI disallows listing the RDN of **e'**, then skip this DSE. Otherwise, add the RDN of **e'** to **listInfo.subordinates** with **aliasEntry** set to **FALSE** and **fromEntry** set according to whether **e'** is a copy.
  - b) Check if time, size or administrative limit is exceeded. If so, set **limitProblem** accordingly in **partialOutcomeQualifier** and return.
- 6) Return to the **Operation Dispatcher**.

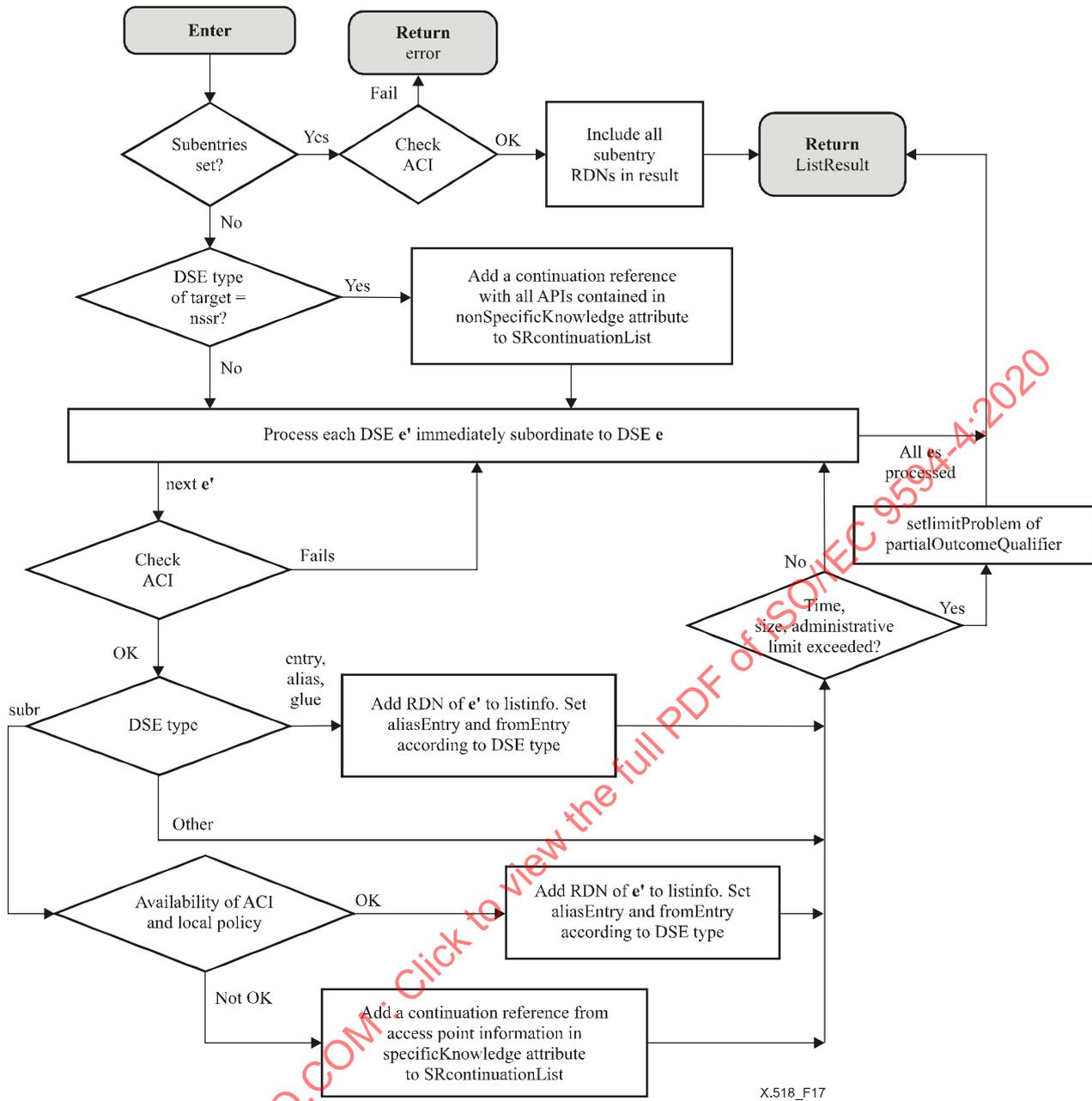


Figure 17 – List (I) procedure

19.3.1.2.2 List (II) procedure

The List (II) procedure consists of the following steps as depicted in Figure 18:

- 1) For each DSE e' immediately subordinate to DSE e, execute steps 1 a) to 1 d):
  - a) If e' is not an entry or alias, continue with the next immediate subordinate.
  - b) Check ACI in e'. If the operation is disallowed by the ACI, continue with the next immediate subordinate of e.
  - c) Add the RDN of DSE e' to listInfo.subordinates, with the aliasEntry component of listInfo.subordinates according to whether e' is an alias, and the fromEntry component set depending on whether e' is a copy or not. Ignore those DSEs of type shadow or writableCopy, if excludeShadows is TRUE.
  - d) Check if time, size or administrative limit is exceeded. If so, set the limitProblem of partialOutcomeQualifier accordingly and return.
  - e) Continue from step 1) a) until all subordinate DSEs have been processed.

- 2) If all subordinate DSEs have been processed, check if this subrequest came from a DAP or DSP. In case this subrequest is submitted via a DAP, and the **ListResult** is empty, then return a **serviceError** with problem **invalidReference** to the Operation Dispatcher. Otherwise, the **ListResult** is returned.

NOTE – **invalidReference** is used as a security precaution in case the user does not have access to the superior entry. If the superior's entry ACI is available (provided by the RHOB), then a null result may be returned if allowed.

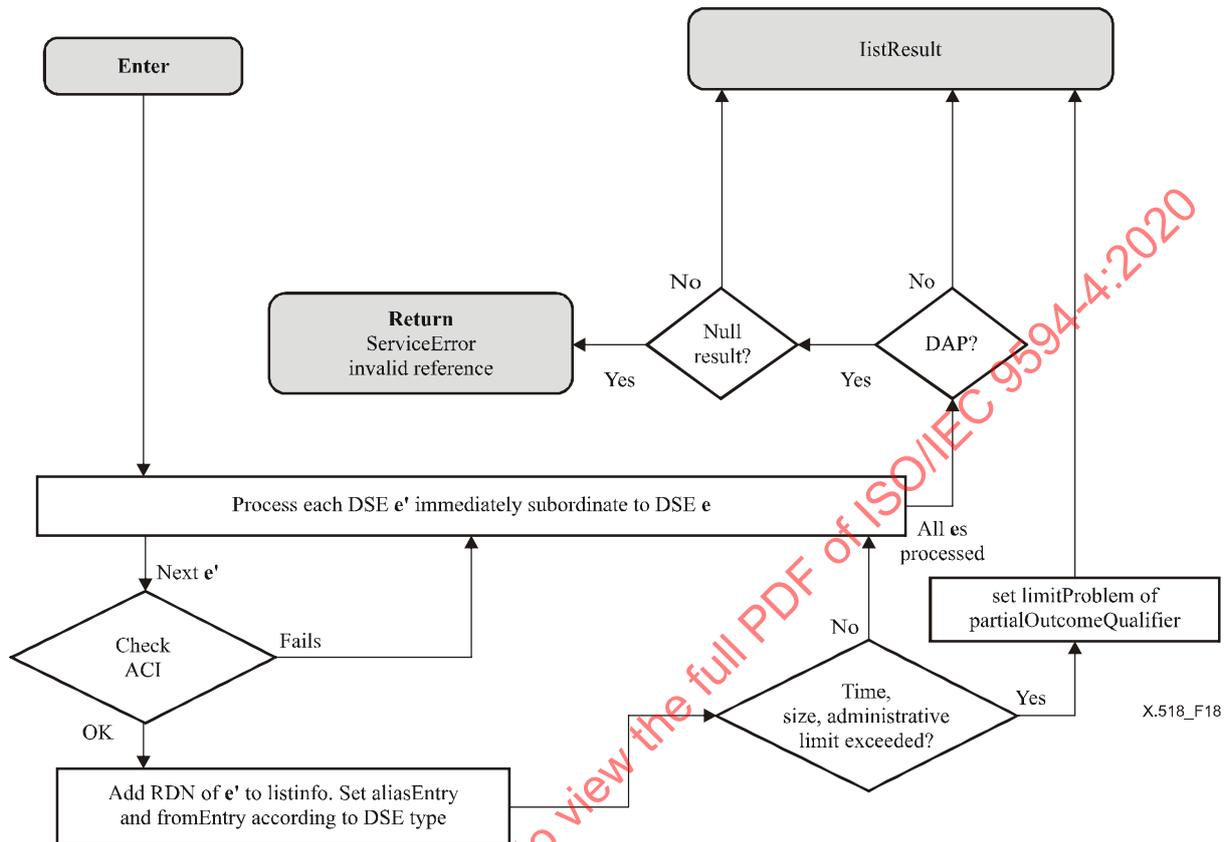


Figure 18 – List (II) procedure

### 19.3.2 Search procedures

This clause specifies the evaluation procedures specific to **chainedLdapTransport** requests with an embedded LDAP **SearchRequest**, **search** requests and **chainedSearch** requests.

The **Search-rule-check (I)** procedure, when relevant, shall be followed when the search request's **operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** component is set to **notStarted** or **proceeding** and when the DSA, after performing Name Resolution, finds that it holds the target object. If this procedure returns an error, return with that error. If the **Search-rule-check (I)** procedure was not followed or was followed without returning an error, then the **Search (I)** procedure shall be followed for a **search** or **chainedSearch** request, while the **LDAP Search (I)** procedure shall be followed for a **chainedLdapTransport** request.

The **Search-rule-check (II)** procedure, when relevant, shall be followed when the **search** request's **nameResolutionPhase** component is set to **completed**. If this procedure returns an error, return with that error. If the **Search-rule-check (II)** procedure was not followed or was followed without returning an error, then the **Search (II)** procedure shall be followed for a **search** or **chainedSearch** request, while the **LDAP Search (II)** procedure shall be followed for a **chainedLdapTransport** request.

NOTE – When **nameResolutionPhase** is **completed**, the target object is expected to be the immediate superior of a context prefix.

#### 19.3.2.1 Procedure parameters

##### 19.3.2.1.1 Arguments

The arguments that are used by this procedure are:

- the **SearchArgument**;

- the target DSE `e`;
- `operationProgress` of the `ChainingArguments`;
- `exclusions` of the `ChainingArguments` (a list of RDNs to exclude from search);
- `traceInformation` of the `ChainingArguments`;
- `searchRuleId` of the `ChainingArguments`;
- `chainedRelaxation` of the `ChainingArguments`; and
- `relatedEntry` of the `ChainingArguments`.

### 19.3.2.1.2 Results

If this procedure is successfully executed, it returns:

- a set of matched entries in `searchResult.entryInformation`;
- `alreadySearched` in `ChainingResults`;
- dependent on conditions, a count in the `partialOutcomeQualifier.entryCount`; and
- a set of continuation references in `SRcontinuationList`.

### 19.3.2.2 Procedure definition

#### 19.3.2.2.1 Related Entry Argument procedure

This procedure is only relevant if the `search` request has a `joinArguments` component and `ChainingArguments` (if any) does not have a `relatedEntry` component.

- 1) If the `search` request is protected, generate a DSP request for each element of the `joinArguments` component each including the original DAP request. The `ChainingArguments` shall be as follows:
  - if the incoming request has a `ChainingArguments` with component `originator`, the value of this component is copied into the `originator` component of generated requests; otherwise, the use of this component is determined by local security policy.  
NOTE – The receiving DSA may not be able to make use of the name given in this component, as it is from a separate DIT.
  - the `operationProgress` component shall be omitted or set to default value;
  - the `traceInformation`, `aliasDereferenced`, `aliasedRDNs`, `returnCrossRefs`, `entryOnly`, `exclusions`, `nameResolutionOnMaster`, `searchRuleId`, `chainedRelaxation` components shall be omitted; and
  - the `relatedEntry` component is set to a value corresponding to the relative position of the `JoinArgument` that applies to the DSA to which the request is forwarded; where the first `JoinArgument` is given the value 0, the next one the value 1, etc.
- 2) If the incoming `search` request is not protected, generate a DSP request for each element of the `joinArguments` component where the `SearchArgument` shall be generated as follows:
  - the `baseObject` component shall be copied from the `joinBaseObject` component of the corresponding `JoinArgument`;
  - the `subset` component shall be copied from the `joinSubset` component of the corresponding `JoinArgument`;
  - the `filter` component shall be copied from the `filter` component of the corresponding `JoinArgument`; and
  - the remaining components shall be as in the original request, except that the `joinArguments` and `joinType` components shall be omitted.

The `ChainingArguments` shall be as above for protected requests, except that the `relatedEntry` component shall be omitted.
- 3) Call the **Operation Dispatcher** for each request to be locally continued.
- 4) If the **Operation Dispatcher** returns a `referral` error, or busy, or unavailable errors then add (or make and add) the continuation reference to `partialOutcomeQualifier` of `SearchResult`, and return.
- 5) If the **Operation Dispatcher** returns other errors, discard it and return.
- 6) If the **Operation Dispatcher** returns a `SearchResult`, then:

- i) If the result is signed, add it to **uncorrelatedSearchInfo** in **SearchResult**.
- ii) If the result is not signed, perform the join process as specified in Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

### 19.3.2.2.2 Search-rule check procedure (I)

This procedure is only relevant, if the DSA supports service-specific administration areas.

If the **searchRuleId** component is present in the **ChainingArguments**, the operation is the result of an alias dereferencing procedure during a previous evaluation phase. Then, if the target DSE is within a service-specific administrative area having a different **dmdId**, or if the target DSE is outside a service-specific administrative area, return with an **unwillingToPerform** service error. Otherwise, select the appropriate search-rule based on information in **searchRuleId** and return.

NOTE 1 – Service administration has been defined as a critical extension. When a DSA, which does not support service administration, receives a chained search request with a **searchRuleId** component, it will return a **serviceError** with problem **unavailableCriticalExtension**.

If the **searchRuleId** is not present and the target DSE is outside a service-specific administrative area; or if it is within such an area, but no subentries are associated with that area, return.

If the target DSE is within a service-specific administrative area and the **traceInformation** reveals that the operation has been in a previous evaluation phase, return with an **unwillingToPerform** service error.

NOTE 2 – This is the situation where a search has started its initial evaluation outside a service-specific administrative area and now attempts to spread into a different service-specific administrative area.

Otherwise, the following procedure is followed:

- 1) Locate all search-rules associated with the target DSE, i.e., all search-rules in service subentries having the target DSE within its subtree specifications (e.g., by use of the **searchRulesSubentry** operational attribute). These search-rules are in the following called *candidate-search-rules*. If there are no such search-rules, generate a service error with problem **requestedServiceNotAvailable**, include into the **notification** component of the **CommonResults** a **searchServiceProblem** attribute with the value **id-pr-unidentifiedOperation**, and return.
- 2) If the **serviceType** and/or the **userClass** service controls are included in the search request, eliminate all search-rules not complying with those service controls from the candidate-search-rules. If that leaves the list empty, generate a service error with problem **requestedServiceNotAvailable**; include in the **notification** component of the **CommonResults** the information as detailed below and return:
  - a **searchServiceProblem** attribute with the value **id-pr-unidentifiedOperation**;
  - if the **serviceType** service control was included in the search request, a **serviceType** attribute with the value of that service control.
- 3) Split the candidate-search-rule list up into four lists (some of which may be empty):
  - a **GoodPermittedSR** list containing all the candidate-search-rules to which the requester has invoke permission and with which the search request complies according to the search-validation procedure specified in clause 14 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3;

NOTE 3 – If this list is not empty, there is no reason to create the other lists.

  - a **MatchProblemSR** list containing all the candidate search-rules to which the requester has invoke permission and with which the search request complies except for **matchingUse** in one or more request-attribute-profiles;
  - a **BadPermittedSR** list containing all the candidate-search-rules to which the requester has invoke permission but with which the search request does not comply;
  - a **DeniedSR** list containing all the candidate-search-rules to which the requester does not have invoke permission.
- 4) If the **GoodPermittedSR** list contains one or more empty search-rule, select using a local algorithm one of these empty search-rules as the governing search-rule and return.
- 5) If the **GoodPermittedSR** list is not empty, discard all search-rules except those with the highest **userClass** indication.
- 6) Select one of the remaining search-rule in the **GoodPermittedSR** list as the governing-search-rule, using a local algorithm, and return.

NOTE 4 – If in the list above there are several search-rules to select from, the implementation should log the incident for administrative attention, as the search-rule definitions probably need re-working.

- 7) If the **MatchProblemSR** list is not empty, select one of its search-rules following an algorithm similar to the one specified in 5) and 6) above; generate a service error and associated information as detailed in clause 14.4 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3, and then return.
- 8) If the **DeniedSR** list is empty, continue with 10); otherwise, discard any search-rule from the list with which the search request does not comply and discard any empty search-rule. If the list is now empty, continue with 10); otherwise, generate a service error with problem **requestedServiceNotAvailable**; include in the **notification** component of the **CommonResults** the subcomponents detailed below, and return:
  - a **searchServiceProblem** attribute with the value **id-pr-unavailableOperation**;
  - if all the remaining search-rules in the **DeniedSR** list have the same value in the **serviceType** component, a **serviceType** attribute with that value.
- 9) If the **BadPermittedSR** is empty, generate a service error with problem **requestedServiceNotAvailable**; include into the **notification** component of the **CommonResults** the subcomponents detailed below and return:
  - a **searchServiceProblem** attribute with the value **id-pr-unidentifiedOperation**.
- 10) For each numbered item in the procedure in clause 14.1 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3 taken in order, check the search request against the remaining search-rules in **BadPermittedSR**, and then for each item:
  - if the search complies with the item for some search-rules, but not for all search-rules, discard the search rules with which it does not comply;
  - if the **BadPermittedSR** now only holds one search-rule, perform the procedure specified in clause 14 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3, and return;
  - otherwise, the next item is checked.
- 11) If the **BadPermittedSR** now only holds search-rules with which the search does not comply according to the procedure so far, generate a service error with problem **requestedServiceNotAvailable**; include in the **notification** component of the **CommonResults** the subcomponents detailed below and return:
  - a **searchServiceProblem** attribute with the value **id-pr-unidentifiedOperation**;
  - if all the search-rules in **BadPermittedSR** specifies the same service-type, a **serviceType** attribute with that service-type as value.
- 12) For each numbered item in clause 14.2 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3 taken in order, check the search request against the remaining search-rules in **BadPermittedSR**, and then for each item:
  - if the search complies with the item for some search-rules, but not for all search-rules, discard the search rules with which it does not comply;
  - if the **BadPermittedSR** now only holds one search-rule, perform the procedure specified in clause 14 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3, and return;
  - otherwise, the next item is checked.
- 13) For each numbered item in clause 14.3 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3 taken in order, check the search request against the remaining search-rules in **BadPermittedSR**, and then for each item:
  - if the search complies with the item for some search-rules, but not for all search-rules, discard the search rules with which it does not comply;
  - if the **BadPermittedSR** now only holds one search-rule, perform the procedure specified in clause 14 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3, and return;
  - otherwise, the next item is checked.
- 14) Generate a service error with problem **requestedServiceNotAvailable**; include in the **notification** component of the **CommonResults** the subcomponents detailed below and return:
  - a **searchServiceProblem** attribute with the value **id-pr-unidentifiedOperation**;
  - if all the search-rules in **BadPermittedSR** specifies the same service-type, a **serviceType** attribute with that service-type as value.

### 19.3.2.2.3 Search-rule check procedure (II)

This procedure is only relevant, if the DSA supports service-specific administrative areas.

If the **searchRuleId** is not present, and all the immediate subordinate entries (context prefixes) of the target DSE are service-specific administrative points, then return with a **serviceError** with problem **unwillingToPerform**. If, however, some of the subordinate entries are not service-specific administrative points, then select the corresponding naming contexts for the search evaluation and return.

If the **searchRuleId** is present, each subordinate entry of the target DSE is checked to verify that it is within the same service-specific administration area as the target DSE. If not, the corresponding naming context is excluded from the search. If there are remaining naming contexts (including ones in the performing DSA) in which the search can continue, select the search-rule identified in **searchRuleId** and return. If there are no remaining naming contexts in which the search can continue, generate a **serviceError** with problem **unwillingToPerform** and return.

NOTE – The latter should not occur if knowledge information is consistent between the DSA and the DSA holding the superior naming context.

#### 19.3.2.2.4 Entry information selection

For matched entries and for entry selected as part of hierarchy selection, attribute information is selected as the intersection of:

- a) what is specified by the **searchArgument.selection**, possible modified by the default context specifications, and for matched entries also by the **searchArgument.matchedValuesOnly**;
- b) what is determined by the governing-search-rule (if any).

This entry information is added to the list of entries in **searchResult.entryInformation**.

Only add attributes whose size (type and all values) is not greater than the **attributeSizeLimit**.

#### 19.3.2.2.5 Search (I) procedure

This is a recursive procedure that applies to a **search** request that starts at a given target entry **e**. It searches the target entry **e** and then processes the DSEs immediately subordinate to **e**. The procedure is invoked by itself recursively in the case that a whole subtree is to be searched. The procedure consists of the following steps as shown in Figure 19:

- 1) If the type of DSE **e** is of type **cp** (a DSE at a context prefix), check if any element of the **exclusions** argument is a prefix of the DN of **e**.
  - a) If so, return.
  - b) Else, call Check Suitability.
    - i) If **e** is unsuitable, make a **continuationReference** as follows and add it to **SRContinuationList**:
      - **targetObject** set to the distinguished name of the immediate superior of DSE **e**;
      - **operationProgress** with **nameResolutionPhase** set to **proceeding** and **nextRDNTtoBeResolved** set to the number of RDNs in **e**;
      - all other components of **continuationReference** are unchanged.
 Then return.
    - ii) Else, add the Distinguished Name of **e** to **alreadySearched** in **ChainingResults**.
 

NOTE 2 – **alreadySearched** only contains context prefixes.
- 2) If **e** is of type **alias** and **searchAliases** in **SearchArgument** is **TRUE**, then call Search Alias procedure and then return.
- 3) If **subset** is **oneLevel**, then proceed to step 6).

NOTE 1 – This is the only place when a **search** subrequest is chained to a shadow's supplier. In other words, the target object for such a chained subrequest is always a context prefix.

- 4) If **subset** is **baseObject**, or if **entryOnly** is **TRUE** then continue with this step; otherwise, go to step 5).
 

If one of the following is true:

  - a) **e** is of type **subentry** and the service control **subentry** is set; or
  - b) **e** is not of type **subentry** and the service control **subentry** is not set, then do the following steps:
    - i) Check ACL. If the operation is disallowed, return.
    - ii) Apply the filter argument specified in the **SearchArgument.filter** to the DSE **e**. Ensure that access to all attributes used in the filter is permitted as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 |

NOTE 3 – The **e** cannot be subordinate incomplete at this point since the Check Suitability at the context prefix should have ascertained that this cannot happen.

- 5) If **subset** is **baseObject**, or if **entryOnly** is **TRUE** then continue with this step; otherwise, go to step 5).
 

If one of the following is true:

  - a) **e** is of type **subentry** and the service control **subentry** is set; or
  - b) **e** is not of type **subentry** and the service control **subentry** is not set, then do the following steps:
    - i) Check ACL. If the operation is disallowed, return.
    - ii) Apply the filter argument specified in the **SearchArgument.filter** to the DSE **e**. Ensure that access to all attributes used in the filter is permitted as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 |

ISO/IEC 9594-2. If the filter matches, and if the entry is not excluded due to hierarchy selection, add the attribute information as specified in clause 19.3.2.2.3.

- iii) If the **hierarchySelection** search control is included in the **search** request (possibly modified by a search-rule specification), the entry is part of a hierarchical group having more than one member, and more than the **self** indication is set, then call the **Hierarchy Selection (I)** procedure.

Then return.

- 5) If **subset** is **subtree** (and **entryOnly** is not **TRUE**), and in addition one of the following is true:
  - a) **e** is of type **subentry** and the service control **subentry** is set; or
  - b) **e** is not of type **subentry** and the service control **subentry** is not set, then do the following steps:
    - i) Check **ACI**. If the operation is disallowed, go to step 6).
    - ii) Apply the filter argument specified in the **SearchArgument.filter** to the DSE **e**. Ensure that access to all attributes used in the filter is permitted as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2. If the filter matches, and if the entry is not excluded due to hierarchy selection, add the attribute information as specified in clause 19.3.2.2.3.
    - iii) If the **hierarchySelection** search control is included in the **search** request (possibly modified by a search-rule specification), the entry is part of a hierarchical group having more than one member, and more than the **self** indication is set, then call the **Hierarchy Selection (I)** procedure.
    - iv) Proceed to step 6).
- 6) If **e** is of type **nssr**, then add a Continuation Reference to **SRcontinuationList** with the following components:
  - **targetObject** to the distinguished name of the DSE **e**;
  - **aliasedRDNs** absent;
  - **operationProgress** with **nameResolutionPhase** set to **completed** and **nextRDNtoBeResolved** absent;
  - **rdnsResolved** absent;
  - **referenceType** set to **nssr**;
  - **accessPoints** set to **AccessPointInformation** derived from the value(s) found in the **nonSpecificKnowledge** attribute.
- 7) Process all DSEs **e'** that are located immediately subordinate to the target DSE **e** until all subordinate DSEs have been processed. If **e'** is within a service-specific administrative area, only those immediately subordinate DSEs that are part of the same service-specific administrative area shall be processed. If **e** is outside a service-specific administrative area, those immediately subordinate DSEs that are part of a service-specific administrative area shall not be processed. During this loop, if the list of matched entries in **searchResult.entryInformation** exceeds the size limit, or time or administrative limit is exceeded then set **limitProblem** accordingly in **partialOutcomeQualifier** and return.

NOTE 4 – The check for size limit is also implicitly applied every time **searchResult** is updated.

- a) If the DSE **e'** is of type **subr**, is not of type **cp**, and is not representing a subordinate entry that is a service-specific administrative point, then add a Continuation Reference to **SRcontinuationList** with the following components:
  - **targetObject** to the distinguished name of the DSE **e**;
  - **aliasedRDNs** absent;
  - **operationProgress** with **nameResolutionPhase** set to **completed** and **nextRDNtoBeResolved** absent;
  - **rdnsResolved** absent;
  - **referenceType** set to **subr**;
  - **accessPoints** set to the access point information contained in the **specificKnowledge** attribute of DSE **e'**.

NOTE 5 – If **e'** is of both type **cp** and **subr**, a search subrequest can be generated potentially from either the subordinate reference or the supplier knowledge, but not both. This procedure uses the latter (supplier references found in **cp**).

- b) For all cases:
  - i) If **subset** is **oneLevel**, set **entryOnly** to **TRUE**.
  - ii) Recursively execute **Search (I)** procedure for target DSE **e'**.
- 8) If all subordinates have been processed, return to the **Operation Dispatcher** for further processing.

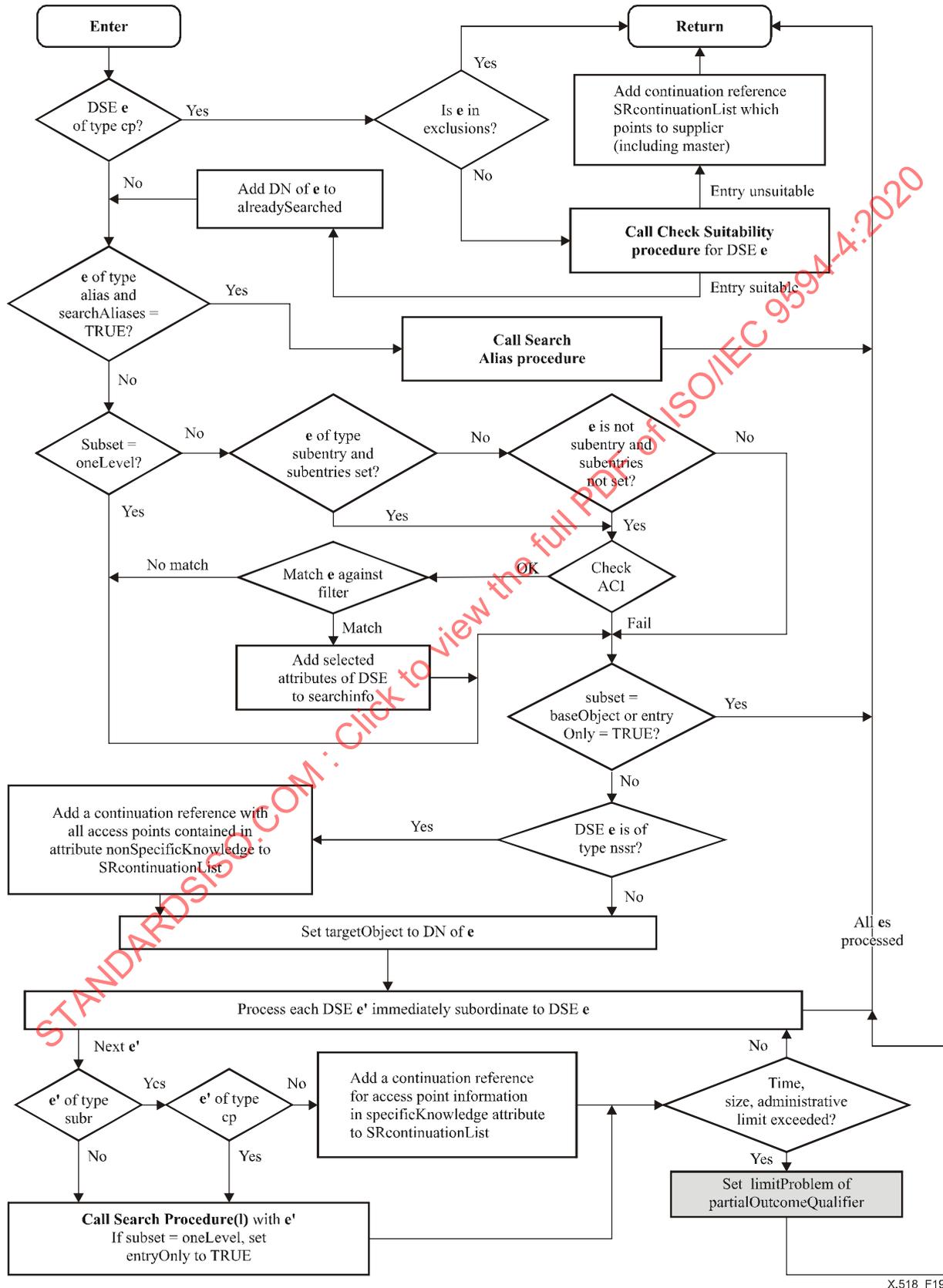


Figure 19 – Search (I) procedure

19.3.2.2.6 Search (II) procedure

This procedure applies if a **search** request is processed that originated from a request decomposition at the DSA from which the request was received. The procedure processes the DSEs below the target DSE **e** and calls the **Search (I)** procedure for each object entry:

- 1) Process all DSEs **e'** that are located immediately subordinate to the target DSE **e** until all subordinate DSEs have been processed. When all subordinates have been processed, return to the **Operation Dispatcher** for further processing.
- 2) If the DSE is not of type **cp** then ignore it. Return to step 1).
- 3) Call **Check Suitability**. If suitable go to step 4); otherwise, ignore it and return to step 1).
- 4) Execute the **Search Procedure (I)** for the DSE **e'** as described in clause 19.3.2.2. If the DSE is of type **alias** and the value of the **subset** parameter is set to **oneLevel**, set **ChainingArguments.entryOnly** to **TRUE** when calling **Search (I)** procedure. Return to step 1).

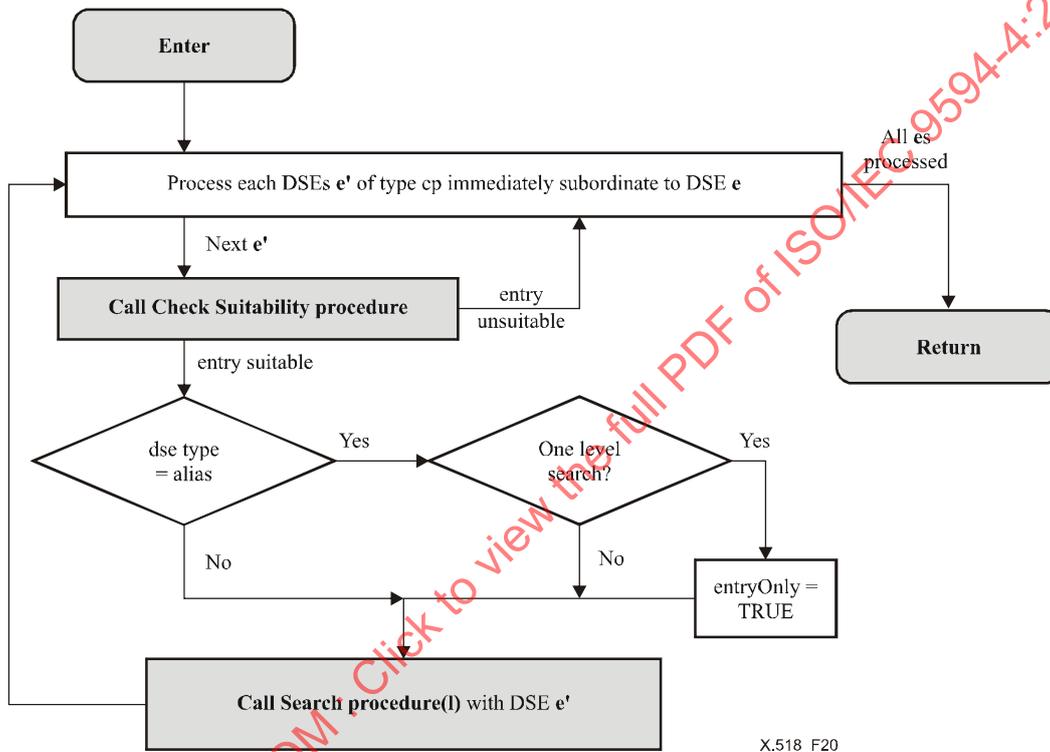


Figure 20 – Search (II) procedure

19.3.2.2.7 LDAP Search (I) procedure

This is a recursive procedure that applies to a chainedLdapTransport request with embedded LDAP SearchRequest that starts at a given target entry **e**. It searches the target entry **e** and then processes the DSEs immediately subordinate to **e**. The procedure is invoked by itself recursively in the case that a whole subtree is to be searched. The procedure consists of the following steps as shown in Figure 19:

- 1) If the type of DSE **e** is of type **cp** (a DSE at a context prefix), call **Check Suitability**.
  - a) If **e** is unsuitable, make a **continuationReference** as follows and add it to **SRContinuationList**:
    - **targetObject** set to the distinguished name of the immediate superior of DSE **e**;
    - **operationProgress** with **nameResolutionPhase** set to **proceeding** and **nextRDNtoBeResolved** set to the number of RDNs in **e**;
    - all other components of **continuationReference** are unchanged.

Then return.

NOTE 1 – This is the only place when a **search** subrequest is chained to a shadow's supplier. In other words, the target object for such a chained subrequest is always a context prefix.

- b) Else, add the Distinguished Name of **e** to **alreadySearched** in **ChainingResults**.

NOTE 2 – **alreadySearched** only contains context prefixes.

- 2) If **e** is of type **alias** and the **derefAliases** component of the embedded LDAP **SearchRequest** is either **derefInSearching** or **derefAlways**, then call **Search Alias** procedure and then return.
- 3) If **scope** of the embedded LDAP **SearchRequest** is **singleLevel**, then proceed to step 6).

NOTE 3 – The **e** cannot be subordinate incomplete at this point since the Check Suitability at the context prefix should have ascertained that this cannot happen.

- 4) If **scope** is **baseObject**, or if **entryOnly** is **TRUE** then continue with this step; otherwise, go to step 5).

If one of the following is true:

- a) **e** is of type **subentry** and the LDAP **subentries** control is included, is recognised and has the value **TRUE**; or
- b) **e** is not of type **subentry** and the LDAP **subentries** control is absent, has the value **FALSE** or is not recognised, then do the following steps:

NOTE 4 – As specified in clause 17.3.3.2, if a **Control** value has the criticality component set to **TRUE** and is not recognised, the request has been rejected.

- i) Check **ACI**. If the operation is disallowed, return.
- ii) Apply the filter argument specified in the **filter** component of the **SearchRequest** to the DSE **e**. Ensure that access to all attributes used in the filter is permitted as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2. If the filter matches, add the attribute information as specified in clause 19.3.2.2.3.

Then return.

- 5) If **scope** is **wholeSubtree** (and **entryOnly** is not **TRUE**), and in addition one of the following is true:
  - a) **e** is of type **subentry** and the LDAP **subentries** control is included, is recognised and has the value **TRUE**; or
  - b) **e** is not of type **subentry** and the LDAP **subentries** control is absent, has the value **FALSE** or is not recognised, then do the following steps:
    - i) Check **ACI**. If the operation is disallowed, go to step 6).
    - ii) Apply the filter argument specified in the **filter** component of the **SearchRequest** to the DSE **e**. Ensure that access to all attributes used in the filter is permitted as defined in Rec. ITU-T X.501 | ISO/IEC 9594-2. If the filter matches, add the attribute information as specified in clause 19.3.2.2.3.
    - iii) Proceed to step 6).
- 6) If **e** is of type **nssr**, then add a Continuation Reference to **SRcontinuationList** with the following components:

- **targetObject** to the distinguished name of the DSE **e**;
- **aliasedRDNs** absent;
- **operationProgress** with **nameResolutionPhase** set to **completed** and **nextRDNTtoBeResolved** absent;
- **rdnsResolved** absent;
- **referenceType** set to **nssr**;
- **accessPoints** set to **AccessPointInformation** derived from the value(s) found in the **nonSpecificKnowledge** attribute.

- 7) Process all DSEs **e'** that are located immediately subordinate to the target DSE **e** until all subordinate DSEs have been processed. If **e** is within a service-specific administrative area, only those immediately subordinate DSEs that are part of the same service-specific administrative area shall be processed. If **e** is outside a service-specific administrative area, those immediately subordinate DSEs that are part of a service-specific administrative area shall not be processed. During this loop, if the list of matched entries in **searchResult.entryInformation** exceeds the size limit, or time or administrative limit is exceeded then set **limitProblem** accordingly in **partialOutcomeQualifier** and return.

NOTE 4 – The check for size limit is also implicitly applied every time **searchResult** is updated.

- a) If the DSE *e'* is of type **subr**, is not of type **cp**, and is not representing a subordinate entry that is a service-specific administrative point, then add a Continuation Reference to **SRcontinuationList** with the following components:
  - **targetObject** to the distinguished name of the DSE *e*;
  - **aliasedRDNs** absent;
  - **operationProgress** with **nameResolutionPhase** set to **completed** and **nextRDNtoBeResolved** absent;
  - **rdnsResolved** absent;
  - **referenceType** set to **subr**;
  - **accessPoints** set to the access point information contained in the **specificKnowledge** attribute of DSE *e'*.

NOTE 5 – If *e'* is of both type **cp** and **subr**, a search subrequest can be generated potentially from either the subordinate reference or the supplier knowledge, but not both. This procedure uses the latter (supplier references found in **cp**).
- b) For all cases:
  - i) If **subset** is **oneLevel**, set **entryOnly** to **TRUE**.
  - ii) Recursively execute **Search (I)** procedure for target DSE *e'*.
- 8) If all subordinates have been processed, return to the **Operation Dispatcher** for further processing.

### 19.3.2.2.8 LDAP Search (II) procedure

#### 19.3.2.2.9 Search Alias procedure

This procedure is executed if a DSE of type **alias** has been encountered during the processing of a **search** request (see Figure 21):

- 1) If **subset** is **baseObject** or **oneLevel**, go to step 4).
  - 2) If **aliasedEntryName** is a prefix of **targetObject** or **baseObject** or any of the previous values of the **targetObject** in **ChainingArguments.traceInformation**, then the alias is excluded from the Search because this would cause a recursive search with duplicate results.
  - 3) If **targetObject** or **baseObject** or any of the previous values of the **targetObject** in **ChainingArguments.traceInformation** is a prefix of **aliasedEntryName**, then no specific processing of the alias is required because the aliased subtree will be searched anyway.
- NOTE – For both of the above cases, **baseObject** may not be a prefix of **targetObject**, due to alias dereferencing.
- 4) If the search is performed within a service-specific administrative area and if the service-specific administrative point is not a prefix of **aliasedEntryName**, then no specific processing of the alias is required, as the aliased entry is outside the service-specific administrative area.
  - 5) Build a DSP request with the **targetObject** set to the **aliasedEntryName**. If **subset** is **oneLevel**, set **entryOnly** to **TRUE**. Call the **Operation Dispatcher** for the request to be locally continued.
  - 6) If the **Operation Dispatcher** returns a **referral** error, or busy, or unavailable errors then add (or make and add) the continuation reference to **partialOutcomeQualifier** of **SearchResult**, and return.
  - 7) If the **Operation Dispatcher** returns other errors, discard it and return.
  - 8) If the **Operation Dispatcher** returns a **SearchResult**, then:
    - i) If the result is signed, add it to **uncorrelatedSearchInfo** in **SearchResult**.
    - ii) If the result is not signed, add it to **searchInfo** in **SearchResult**.

And return.

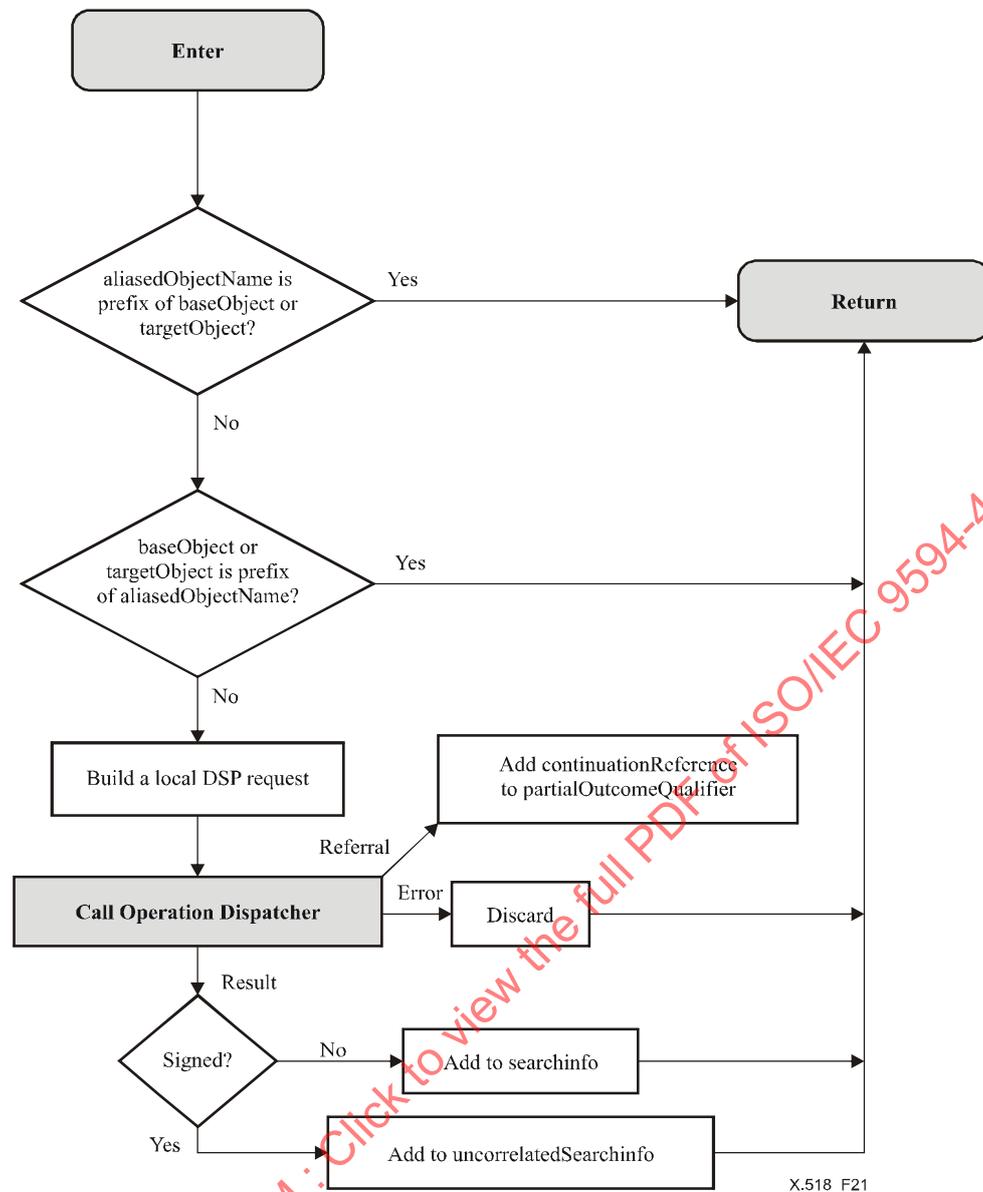


Figure 21 – Search Alias procedure

#### 19.3.2.2.10 Hierarchy Selection procedure (I)

This procedure is executed if a member of a hierarchical group is encountered during the processing of a **search** request specifying hierarchy selection.

- a) If a hierarchy selection that is not supported by the DSA is present, then return with:
  - a **serviceError** with problem **requestedServiceNotAvailable**;
  - a **searchServiceProblem** notification attribute with the value **id-pr-unavailableHierarchySelect**;
  - a **serviceType** notification attribute having as value the **serviceType** component of the search-rule; and
  - a **hierarchySelectList** notification attribute indicating the invalid selection(s).
- b) Otherwise, add all the entries defined by the hierarchical selection as defined in clause 19.3.2.2.4. If that results in no entry being added, i.e., the hierarchy selections only specify non-existing entries, then set the **emptyHierarchySelect** global variable.

## 20 Continuation Reference procedures

The procedures in this clause are called to process the list of continuation references (**NRcontinuationList** or **SRcontinuationList**) created by other procedures.

The **Continuation Reference** procedures consist of the steps shown in Figures 24, 25 and 26. The first stage is to identify sets of continuation references from the continuation list that have a common target object component. These have been created from a set of subordinate or non-specific subordinate references associated with the same entry in the DIT. Within each of these sets there may be continuation references which occur more than once. The sets should be scanned and any duplicates found should be discarded.

These sets (each with a different **targetObject** component) may be processed independently, either sequentially or in parallel by the DSA, since there is no risk that the same results will be returned from any two sets. However, the processing of each continuation reference within one set, and of each **AccessPointInformation** within one continuation reference, and of each access point within one **AccessPointInformation**, has to be controlled, or duplicate results may occur, as described in clause 20.1.

NOTE – Some continuation references may be unusable if the **AccessPoint** contains a **PresentationAddress** where all the NSAP addresses have an unknown structure (see clause 12.3 of Rec. ITU-T X.519 | ISO/IEC 9594-5).

The procedure adopted in the **APInfo** procedure is to process one by one the set of access points contained in a single **AccessPointInformation**. These all point to (copies of) the same naming context (or possibly a set of naming contexts held in one DSA, in the case of NSSRs). If the first access point produces a result or a hard error, further access points do not need to be processed. However, if the error is a soft error, i.e., a **serviceError** (with problem **busy**, **unavailable**, **unwillingToPerform**, **invalidReference**, or **administrativeLimitExceeded**), then the DSA may choose, as a local option, to process another access point from the set.

Processing of the **AccessPointInformation** values within one set of continuation references is handled in a uniform way, irrespective of which continuation reference they originated from. (This is because two DSEs of type **subr** below a single entry would produce two continuation references, each containing one **AccessPointInformation** value, whereas one DSE of type **nssr** to the same two subordinates (assuming that they are held in different DSAs) would produce one continuation reference containing a set of two **AccessPointInformation** values.)

The **accessPointInformation** values may be processed either sequentially or in parallel, as described in clause 20.1. The parallel strategy is more likely to produce duplicate results. Duplicates shall always be discarded.

### 20.1 Chaining strategy in the presence of shadowing

In the presence of shadowing, a DSA may choose between different strategies when it has to multi-chain a request to more than one DSA. This choice always occurs if the DSA has to process more than one continuation reference with the same **targetObject**. This situation can occur from multi-chaining caused by NSSR decomposition during Name Resolution (as shown in Figure 22) or from request decomposition during the evaluation of a multiple object operation (see Figure 23).

The goal of these strategies is to deal with the problem of duplicate results and duplicate processing when shadowed information is used in multi-chaining of requests (caused by either NSSR or request decomposition). For example, in Figure 22, DSA 1 multi-chains a request to both DSAs 2 and 3 because of the NSSR held in DSE B. If the use of shadowed information is allowed, both DSAs 2 and 3 may apply the chained operation to both subtrees starting at X and Y.

Similarly, in Figure 23, DSA 1 multi-chains (as a result of request decomposition) to the two subordinate references held in DSEs X and Y. Again, if the use of shadowed information is allowed, both DSAs 2 and 3 may apply the chained operation to both subtrees starting at X and Y.

To deal with this problem of duplication, a DSA may choose one of the following strategies when multi-chaining to multiple DSA requests with the same **targetObject**.

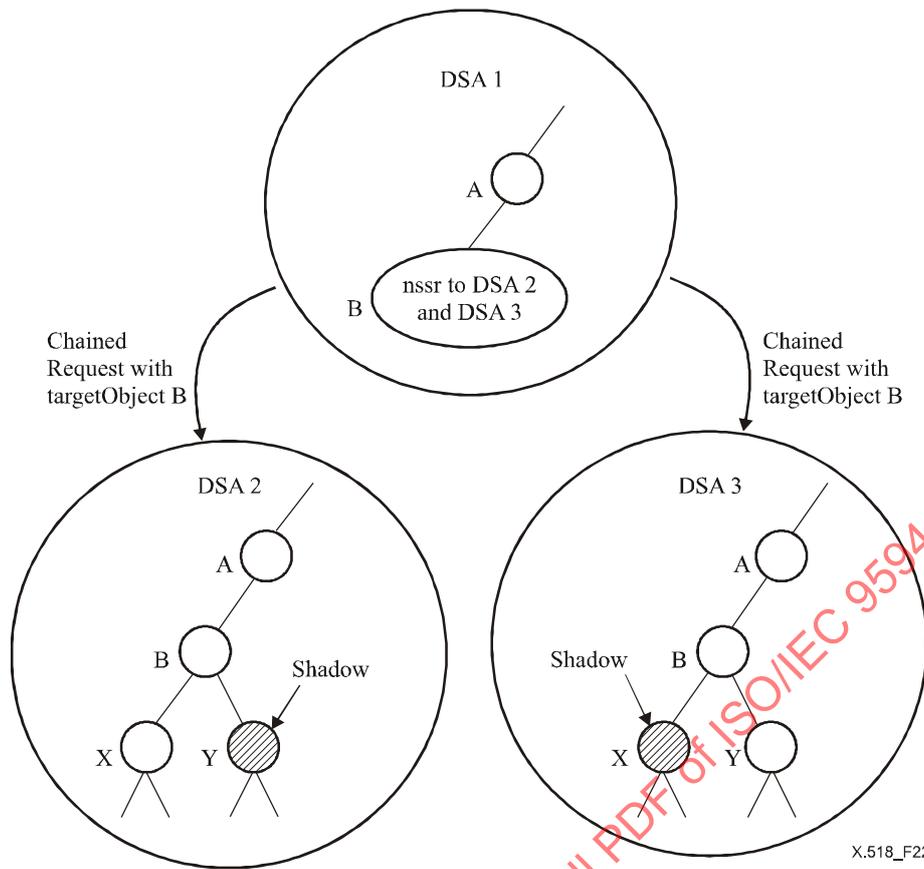


Figure 22 – Multi-chaining caused by NSSR during Name Resolution

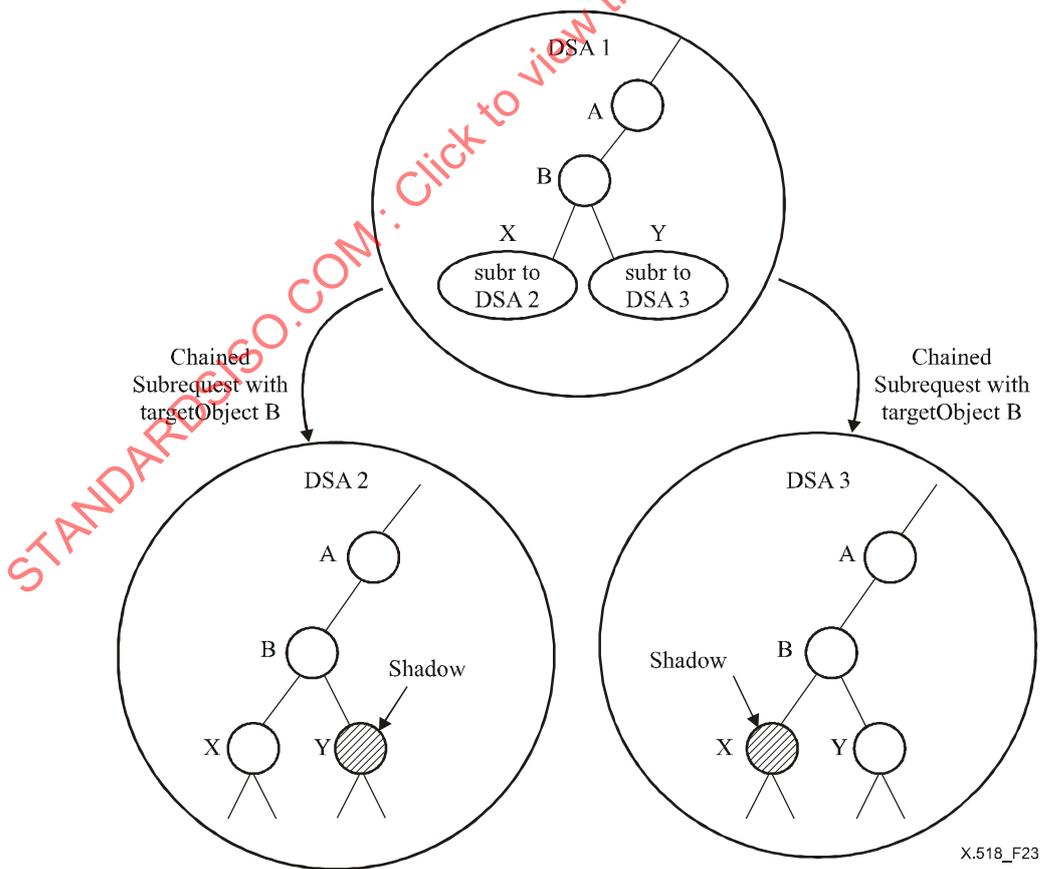


Figure 23 – Multi-chaining request decomposition using subordinate references

### 20.1.1 Master only strategy

A DSA may choose this strategy to prevent the usage of shadowed information when performing a parallel or sequential multi-chaining caused by NSSR decomposition, or request decomposition during a Search or List evaluation. For this strategy, during a Search or List operation evaluation, the **excludeShadows** component of the **ChainingArguments** is set to **TRUE**. If NSSRs are encountered during Name Resolution, a DSA may set **nameResolveOnMaster** to **TRUE** to ensure that only a single path is followed. **nameResolveOnMaster** shall be set to **TRUE** if NSSRs are encountered and the operation is one of the Directory modification operations. In either case, only the DSA(s) that hold the master entry (or entries) relevant to the operation shall perform the operation. This master only strategy can be used during both parallel, as well as sequential multi-chaining.

NOTE – Setting **nameResolveOnMaster** to **TRUE** eliminates the possibility of multiple paths during name resolution by:

- 1) ignoring shadow entries; and
- 2) by ensuring that only one DSA may proceed with name resolution in situations where a complex DIT distribution would otherwise permit more than one to proceed.

This is achieved by allowing only the DSA holding the master entry corresponding to the first **nextRDNTToBeResolved** RDNs of the target object name to continue with name resolution. Any other DSAs will not be able to proceed even though they may hold master entries which match more of the target object name.

### 20.1.2 Parallel strategy

Using this strategy, a DSA sends out all chained requests by parallel multi-chaining. This strategy may be used during Search or List evaluation, and name resolution of the NSSRs. This will allow the use of shadowed information for processing of the chained requests, but may result in duplicate executions and duplicate results for the operation. If a DSA selects this strategy, it shall remove duplicate results from the operation result that it returns.

Because the removal of duplicate results is not possible if a signed result has been requested, a DSA shall not choose this strategy if signed results are requested during Search evaluation, unless **excludeShadows** is also set.

### 20.1.3 Sequential strategy

This strategy avoids duplicate results by using sequential multi-chaining to process the chained (sub)requests of a Search decomposition or of an NSSR decomposition. Each chained request is processed one after the other.

In the case of NSSR decomposition, if a result or a hard error is returned to a request, further requests do not need to be chained. If a soft error is returned, a further request may be chained, or the soft error returned to the requester, depending upon local policy.

In the case of Search evaluation, the **exclusions** component of the **ChainingArguments** is set to the set of RDNs that have already been processed. This is done by incorporating the elements in **ChainingResults.alreadySearched** to the **exclusions** argument of the next chained request. This is the only strategy that completely avoids duplication during Search evaluation.

A sequential strategy is not defined for List evaluation (although sequential multi-chaining may be used), since a superior DSA has no way of excluding specific subordinates from being returned in further List subrequests (note that **excludeShadows** does not exclude specific subordinates, but rather is a coarse way of excluding all shadow copies).

## 20.2 Issuing chained subrequests to a remote DSA or LDAP server

Prior to issuing a subrequest, a DSA has to execute a **dsABind** operation when the DSA has to establish an association to the remote DSA. Management of associations is outside the scope of the Directory Specifications. An association to another DSA is considered unavailable if the association cannot be established or the DSA for local reasons decides not to establish one. In this case, the **dsABind** has failed. It is a local decision when to stop trying to establish an association and declare an association as unavailable.

When a DSA tries **dsABind** to another DSA and receives a **directoryBindError**, the issuing of the subrequest failed.

## 20.3 Procedures' parameters

### 20.3.1 Arguments

These procedures make use of the following arguments:

- the list of continuation references to process in **NRcontinuationList** (for the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure), and **SRcontinuationList** (for the **List Continuation Reference** and **Search Continuation Reference** procedures, respectively);
- the **CommonArguments** of the operation argument;

- the **ChainingArguments**.

### 20.3.2 Results

These procedures create the following results:

- a list of received results/errors of issued chained requests if chaining has been selected;
- an updated list of unprocessed continuation references in **continuationList**.

### 20.3.3 Errors

These procedures can return one of the following errors:

- a **serviceError** with problem **outOfScope** in the case that a referral would have been created which is not within **scopeOfReferral**;
- a **serviceError** with problem **ditError** in the case that an invalid knowledge reference has been detected;
- a **nameError** with problem **noSuchObject** in the case that all subrequests from NSSR decomposition returned **unableToProceed**;
- any other error that is returned by a chained subrequest;
- a **referral** in the case that chaining was not selected and **operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** is set to **notStarted** or **proceeding**.

## 20.4 Definition of the procedures

If **operationProgress.nameResolutionPhase** is set to **notStarted** or **proceeding**, the procedure in clause 20.4.1 (**Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure) shall be followed. The multiple entry interrogation operations List and Search respectively call the procedures in clauses 20.4.2 and 20.4.3.

### 20.4.1 Name Resolution Continuation Reference procedure

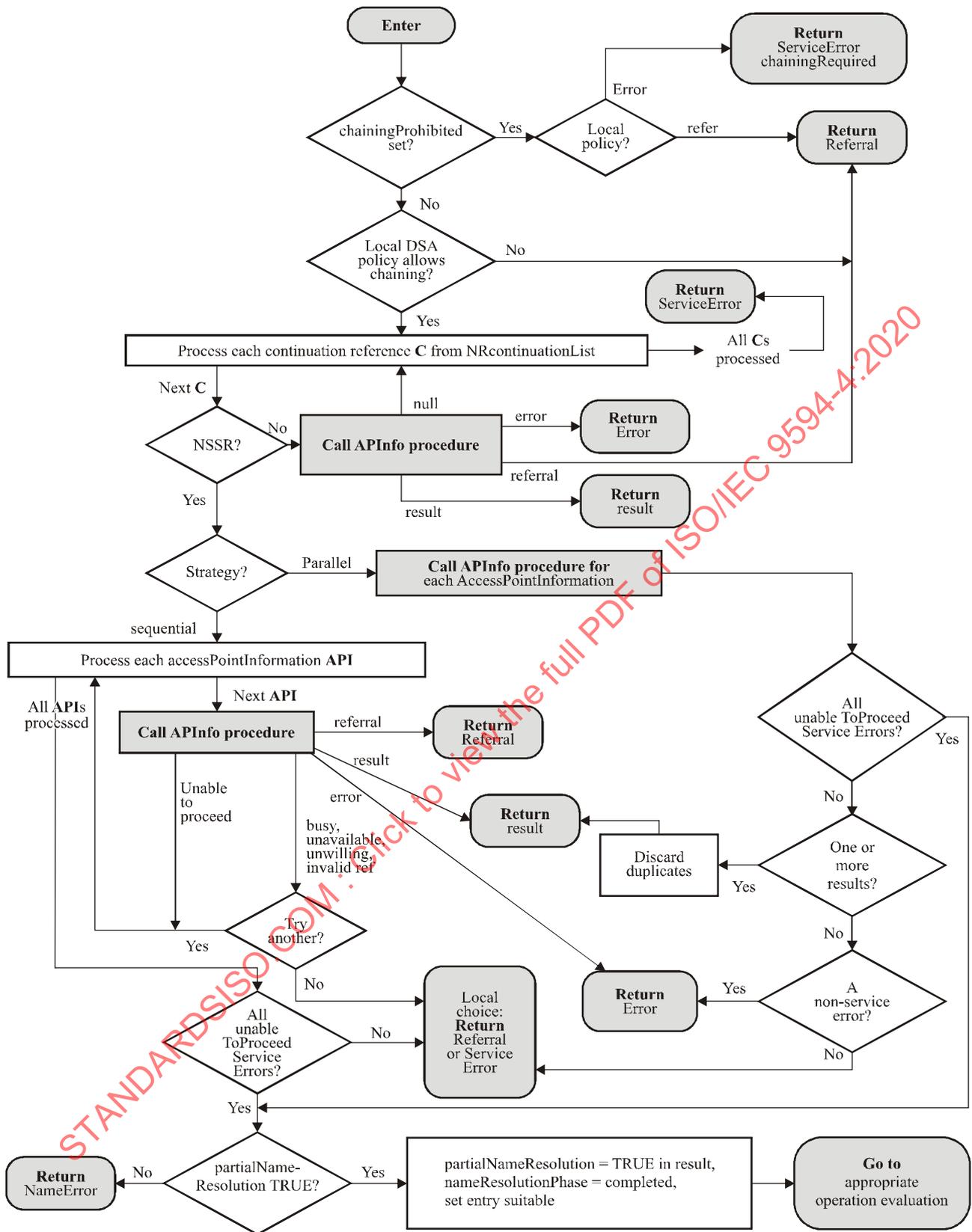
The **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure consists of the steps as shown in Figure 24. The basic principle of this procedure is to sequentially process the set of continuation references created during Name Resolution. The following steps shall be executed for each continuation reference **C** contained in **NRcontinuationList** in a selected order until all references have been processed or an error or result has been returned. If all references have been processed, return to the **Operation Dispatcher** to continue with the **Results Merging** procedure to process the received result or referral.

- 1) Check whether **chainingProhibited** is set. If it is set the DSA is not allowed to chain, then
  - if the request is not an **ldapTransport** request, then according to **local policy**, either a **serviceError** with problem **chainingRequired** or a **referral** shall be returned to the **Operation Dispatcher**; or
  - if the request is an **ldapTransport** request, then an LDAP referral shall be included in the **ldapTransport** result.
- 2) If **chainingProhibited** is not set, then check if **local policy** allows chaining. If chaining is not allowed, then
  - if the request is not an **ldapTransport** request, return a **referral**; or
  - if the request is an **ldapTransport** request, then an LDAP referral shall be included in the **ldapTransport** result.

If **local policy** allows chaining, then continue with the next step.

- 3) Process each of the Continuation References of the list of Continuation References found in **NRcontinuationList**. If there are no more unprocessed Continuation References, then return with **serviceError**.
- 4) Process the next Continuation Reference from **NRcontinuationList**. If it is an NSSR, then continue at step 5). If it is not an NSSR, then call the **APIInfo** procedure to process it. Distinguish between the possible returns of the **APIInfo** procedure:
  - If the **APIInfo** procedure returns a **null result**, continue at step 3) with processing the next Continuation Reference.
  - If the **APIInfo** procedure returns an **error**, **referral** or **result**, then return it.

- 5) In this case, the Continuation Reference is of type NSSR and the DSA has the choice of doing sequential or parallel chaining, depending on the local choice of strategy. If the NSSR is to be processed sequentially, then continue at step 6). If it is to be processed in parallel, then for each of the **AccessPointInformation (API)** in the NSSR, the **APIInfo** procedure is called so that they are processed in parallel. Wait for all the API to be processed, i.e., wait for all the calls to the **APIInfo** procedure to return. Check all the results received from the call to the **APIInfo** procedure in the following order:
  - If all the calls return a **serviceError** with problem **unableToProceed** and **partialNameResolution** is **FALSE**, then return **nameError**.
  - If all the calls return a **serviceError** with problem **unableToProceed** and **partialNameResolution** is **TRUE**, then in the result set **partialName** to **TRUE**, **nameResolutionPhase** to **completed**, set **entry suitable** (this will be for the **lastEntryFound**), and go to the appropriate operation evaluation.
  - If one or more **results** are received, then **discard possible duplicates** and return the **result**.
  - If an **error** is received that is not a **serviceError** (e.g., a **nameError**), then return an **error**.
  - Otherwise return a **referral** or **serviceError** to the **Operation Dispatcher**, according to local choice.
- 6) Choose the next unprocessed **API** from the set of **APIs** in the NSSR and continue at step 7). If all the **APIs** have been processed, then check if all the calls to the **APIInfo** procedure returned a **serviceError** with problem **unableToProceed**.
  - If they did and **partialNameResolution** is **FALSE**, then the entry cannot be found and a **nameError** is returned. If they did and **partialNameResolution** is **TRUE**, then in the result set **partialName** to **TRUE**, **nameResolutionPhase** to **completed**, set **entry suitable** (this will be for the **lastEntryFound**), and go to the appropriate operation evaluation. If they did not, then according to local choice, return a **referral** or **serviceError**.
- 7) Call the **APIInfo** procedure. Distinguish between the possible results from the call to **APIInfo** procedure:
  - If a **serviceError** with problem **unableToProceed** is received, try another access point. Continue at step 6).
  - If a **serviceError** with problem **busy**, **unavailable**, **unwillingToPerform** or **invalidReference** is received, then the indicated problem may be of a transient nature and it is a local choice to try and chain the request on to another DSA. If it is chosen to try another DSA, then continue at step 6); otherwise, return a **referral** or **serviceError**, according to local choice.
  - If an error other than **serviceError** with problem **busy**, **unavailable**, **unwillingToPerform**, **invalidReference** or **unableToProceed** is received, that error should be returned to the **Operation Dispatcher**. If the **serviceError** is **invalidReference**, this shall be converted into **ditError** before being returned to the requester.
  - If a **result** or **referral** is received, return it to the **Operation Dispatcher**.



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Figure 24 – Name Resolution Continuation Reference procedure

20.4.2 List Continuation Reference procedure

The **List Continuation Reference** procedure consists of the steps shown in Figure 25. This procedure is invoked when a List request cannot be satisfied in the local DSA and a set of continuation references have been added to **SRcontinuationList** for chaining or referral. All these continuation references (CR) have the same **targetObject**. Those CRs with **referenceType nssr** have one or more **AccessPointInformation** values (APIs), whereas other type CRs have only one API in them. Each of these APIs is extracted and considered for chaining or referral.

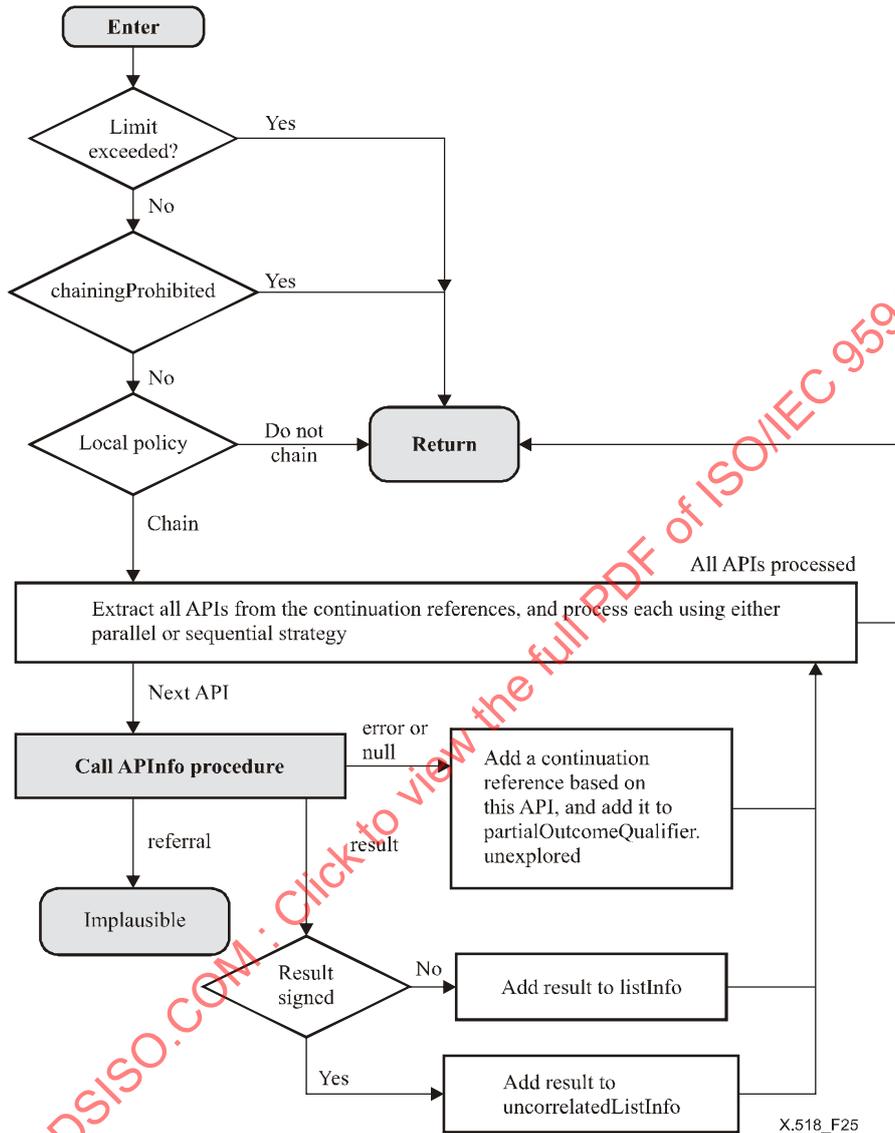


Figure 25 – List Continuation Reference procedure

The following steps shall be executed:

- 1) If any of the limit problem has been exceeded thus far, then return to the **Operation Dispatcher** to continue with the **Results Merging** procedure.
- 2) If the **chainingProhibited** flag in **CommonArguments.serviceControls** is set or the DSA decides not to do any chaining because of its local operational policy, then the DSA shall directly return to the **Operation Dispatcher** to continue with the **Results Merging** procedure.
- 3) Create a set of **AccessPointInformation** values from the **accessPoints** component of every continuation references in the **SRcontinuationList**.

Use either a parallel or sequential strategy to process each API as follows:

- i) Call the **APIInfo** procedure with the next API in the set.
- ii) If a result is returned then add it to **listInfo** if it is not signed, or add it to **uncorrelatedListInfo** if it is signed.

- iii) If the return is an error or null, it means that **APIInfo** has already tried all access points in the **API** without success. Based on local operational and security policy, either ignore and proceed to the next **API**, or add a continuation reference based on this **API** to the **partialOutcomeQualifier**.

NOTE – It is not plausible to get a referral back from **APIInfo**. Any "referral" should come in the form of **unexplored** in **partialOutcomeQualifier**.

- 4) When all **APIs** are processed, return to the **Operation Dispatcher**.

### 20.4.3 Search Continuation Reference procedure

The **Search Continuation Reference** procedure consists of the steps shown in Figure 26. This procedure is invoked when a Search request cannot be satisfied in the local DSA and a set of continuation references have been added to **SRcontinuationList** for chaining or referral. The procedure is very similar to the **List Continuation Reference** procedure. The difference is that, in this case, the continuation references in **SRcontinuationList** may have different **targetObject** values. Thus, the continuation references are sorted into sets of continuation references with the same **targetObject**. Also, the use of **exclusions** in chaining arguments and of **alreadySearched** in chaining results is defined, as this is an important strategy for search. The use of **exclusions** and **alreadySearched** is applied to processing each set of continuation references with the same **targetObject**.

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- 4) For each subset of continuation references, create a set of **AccessPointInformation** values from the **accessPoints** component of every continuation reference in the subset, and choose either the sequential or parallel strategy for further processing. If the parallel strategy is chosen, then skip the steps below that are indicated only applicable to the sequential strategy.
  - a) If the sequential strategy is chosen, maintain a local variable **localExclusions** for each set of continuation references that have the same **targetObject**. Initially, **localExclusions** is set to the exclusions of the incoming chaining request (if it exists), and all locally searched subtrees directly under **targetObject**.
  - b) If the sequential strategy is used, compare the **targetObject** to all the elements of **localExclusions**, and remove those elements which do not contain **targetObject** as a prefix. These are the relevant exclusions for the current target object.
  - c) Extract all the APIs from all the continuation references of the current target object's set.
  - d) Loop through each API. For each API:
    - i) Call **APIInfo**.
    - ii) If a result is returned, then add the result to **searchInfo** if it is not signed, or add it to **uncorrelatedSearchInfo** if it is signed. If the sequential strategy is used, update **localExclusions** using **alreadySearched** in the incoming reply, and also merge the **alreadySearched** in the incoming reply to this DSA's **ChainingResults.alreadySearched**. Then proceed to the next API.
    - iii) If an error or null is returned, it means that **APIInfo** has already tried all access points in the API without success. Based on the local operational and security policy, either ignore and proceed to the next API, or add a continuation reference based on this API to the **partialOutcomeQualifier**.
 

NOTE – It is not plausible to get a referral back from **APIInfo**. Any "referral" should come in the form of **unexplored** in **partialOutcomeQualifier**.
  - e) When all APIs are processed, proceed to the next set of continuation references with the same **targetObject**.
- 5) When all the continuation references are processed, return to the **Operation Dispatcher**.

#### 20.4.4 APIInfo procedure

This procedure is called to process an **AccessPointInformation**, which contains one or more access points (see Figure 27). They are processed one by one until either a result or error is returned. If the error is a service error such that trying another access point may succeed, then additional access points are tried as long as local operational policy permits:

- 1) Perform loop detection. If a loop is detected, then:
  - if the request is not an **ldapTransport** request, return **serviceError** with problem **loopDetected**; or
  - if the request is an **ldapTransport** request, an **ldapTransport** result with an embedded LDAP result with **resultCode** set to **loopDetected**.
 Otherwise, continue at step 2).
- 2) Process each of the access points from the access point information. If all have been processed, return a **null result**. If there is any access point to process, continue at step 3).
- 3) Check whether local policy allows chaining to this access point. This check should take into account the settings of the service controls and chaining arguments (e.g., **chainingProhibited**, **preferChaining**, whether the access point is within the **localScope** or not, **excludeShadows**). If the local policy or the setting of the respective service controls do not allow the use of this particular access point, then ignore the access point and continue at step 2). If the access point can be used, continue at step 4).
- 4) If local policy selected the master only strategy, then set the chaining argument **excludeShadows** to **TRUE**.

If **nameResolutionPhase** is not **completed** and the strategy is to continue name resolution on master entries, then set **nameResolveOnMaster** to **TRUE**.

The chaining argument **nameResolveOnMaster** shall be set to **TRUE** if either of the following is true:

- in the incoming chaining argument **nameResolutionPhase** is **proceeding** and **nameResolveOnMaster** is **TRUE**; or

- the operation is one of the modification operations, the `referenceType` of the chaining request to be issued is `NSSR`, and a parallel strategy is used.
- NOTE – This method of using `nameResolveOnMaster` is to prevent modification operations being applied multiple times due to the presence of `NSSR`.
- 5) Build a chained request and try to issue it:
    - a) Perform loop avoidance by checking if an item with the same `targetObject` and `operationProgress` occurs in `traceInformation` of the received `ChainingArguments`. If the resulting request [(as described in step 5), c)] would result in a loop, then the DSA shall either return a `serviceError` with problem `loopDetected` to the requesting DUA/LDAP client/DSA or ignore the access point and try the next access point by continuing at step 2).
    - b) If the request or subrequest to be chained is the result of executing a referral, then an extra check for loop avoidance is required. Check if an item with the same `targetObject`, `operationProgress` and target DSA occurs in `referralRequests`. If so, then take the action specified in a). If not, then add a new `TraceItem` to `referralRequests` with the following components:
      - `targetObject` and `operationProgress` set to the value of the chained request/subrequest;
      - `dsa` set to the name of the DSA to which the request/subrequest is to be chained.
    - c) If the `AccessPointInformation` point to an LDAP server, then continue at step 9). Otherwise, after a successful Bind, the DSA shall issue a chained operation of the same operation type as the operation that is processed with the following parameters:
      - the operation argument within the chained operation is set as for the operation argument received;
      - `ChainingArguments.originator` set as received;
      - `ChainingArguments.targetObject` set to the `targetObject` of the continuation reference;
      - `ChainingArguments.operationProgress` set to the value of `operationProgress` of the continuation reference;
      - `ChainingArguments.traceInformation` set to trace information as updated by the `Request Validation` procedure if the continuation reference is not of type `ditBridge`, otherwise, the component shall be absent;
      - `ChainingArguments.aliasDereferenced` to the updated value of the locally updated `aliasDereferenced`;
      - `ChainingArguments.returnCrossRefs` to a local choice;
      - `ChainingArguments.referenceType` to the value of `referenceType` of the continuation reference;
      - `ChainingArguments.timeLimit` to the value of the received `timeLimit`;
      - `ChainingArguments.exclusions` is set to either the relevant exclusions for the current target object if called by the Search Continuation Reference procedure, or absent if the `APIInfo` procedure was called by the Name Resolution or the List Continuation procedures;
      - `SecurityParameters` set to the value of the received `SecurityParameters`.
  - 6) If the request could not be issued successfully, then continue at step 7). If it could be issued successfully, continue at step 8).
  - 7) It is a local choice whether or not to continue. If the DSA chooses to continue, then the error is ignored and the next access point will be tried. Continue at step 2). If the DSA decides not to try another access point, then it is a choice of local policy whether to return a respective `referral` or a `serviceError` to the caller of the procedure.
  - 8) If the request could be issued successfully, then the DSA shall wait for the reply and process it:
    - a) If a `result` is received, the `result` is returned to the caller of the procedure.
    - b) If a `serviceError` with problem `busy`, `unavailable`, `unwillingToPerform` or `invalidReference` is received, continue at step 7).
    - c) If `referral` is received and `returnToDUA` is set to `TRUE`, then the receiving DSA shall not act on the Referral, but shall return the Referral to the requester.

- d) If a **referral** is received and **returnToDUA** is set to **FALSE**, then the same local policy considerations apply as in step 3) (taking into account service controls, chaining arguments, chaining strategy, etc.). If it is decided not to dereference the **referral**, then return the **referral** to the caller. If it is decided to dereference the **referral**, then empty the **NRcontinuationList**, place the Continuation Reference as received in the Referral in **NRcontinuationList** and call the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure. This may produce a **result**, **referral**, **serviceError** or another **error**. Whatever is received from the call of the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure shall be given back to the caller.
  - e) If any other **error** occurs, it shall be given back to the caller.
- 9) If the incoming request is an **ldapTransport** request, the embedded LDAP request shall be unpacked and forwarded unchanged to the LDAP server with the following exceptions:
    - a) The **messageID** component shall be replaced with a value valid for the LDAP connection in question.
    - b) If the incoming request has the **entryOnly** component set to **TRUE** in the **ChainingArguments** or if the operation is a Search operation with the **scope** component set to **singleLevel** and an alias entry within this DSA was encountered as an immediate subordinate to the **baseObject**, then the **scope** component shall be set to **baseObject**.
  - 10) If the incoming request has originated from a DUA, the DAP request shall be converted to a corresponding LDAP request as specified in clause 20.6 and then forwarded to the LDAP server.

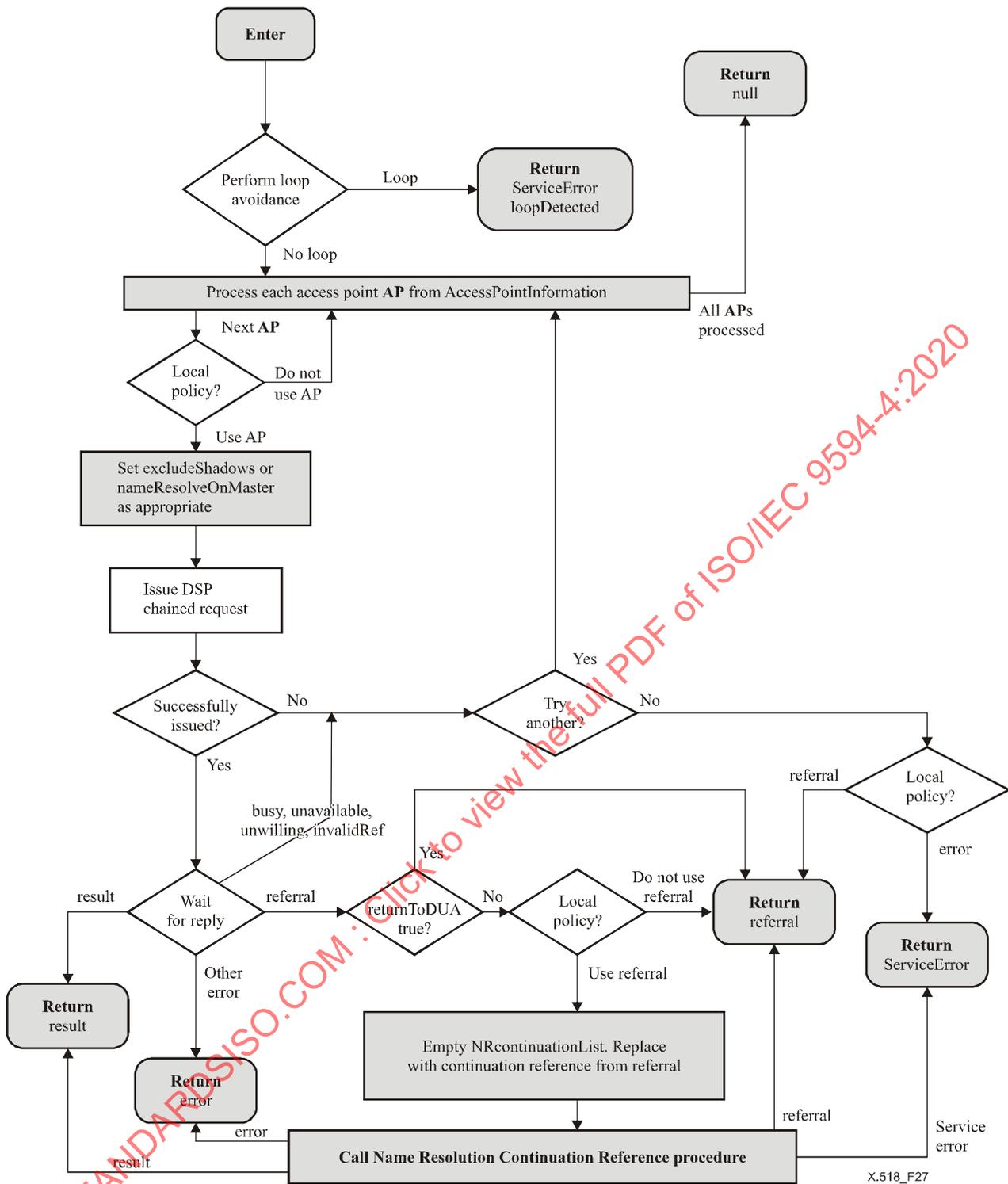


Figure 27 – APInfo procedure

20.5 Abandon procedures

20.5.1 DAP/DSP Abandon procedure

This procedure is invoked if an **abandon** or **chainedAbandon** request is received either to be handled locally or chained to another DSA. It consists of the following steps as shown in Figure 28:

- 1) When an **abandon** or **chainedAbandon** request is received, which references an unknown operation, an **abandonFailed** with problem **noSuchOperation** shall be returned to the requester.
- 2) If the request to be abandoned has already been replied to, and the DSA has retained information to know so, an **abandonError** with problem **tooLate** may be returned to the requester.

- 3) If the Abandon request is not valid, i.e., asks to abandon a request that is not an interrogation request, an **abandonFailed** with problem **cannotAbandon** shall be returned to the requester.
- 4) If a DSA has outstanding chained (sub)requests when receiving a valid Abandon request for the original request, and the DSA decides to attempt abandoning, it may send Abandon requests for none, some or all outstanding (sub)requests for the operation in question, and then wait for the replies to Abandon request and the outstanding (sub)requests. At any time during this operation, the DSA may send an Abandon result and an **abandonFailed** to the requester and then discard replies to the issued Abandon requests and the outstanding (sub)requests as they arrive.

If the DSA decides not to send replies to the requester until there are no more outstanding (sub)requests, it may optionally send an **abandonedFailed** error to the requester if all the issued **abandon** requests were replied to with **abandonedFailed** errors and if no local abandon operation has been performed.

If an **AbandonedFailed** error is returned to the requester, the original request shall be treated as if the Abandon request had never been received.

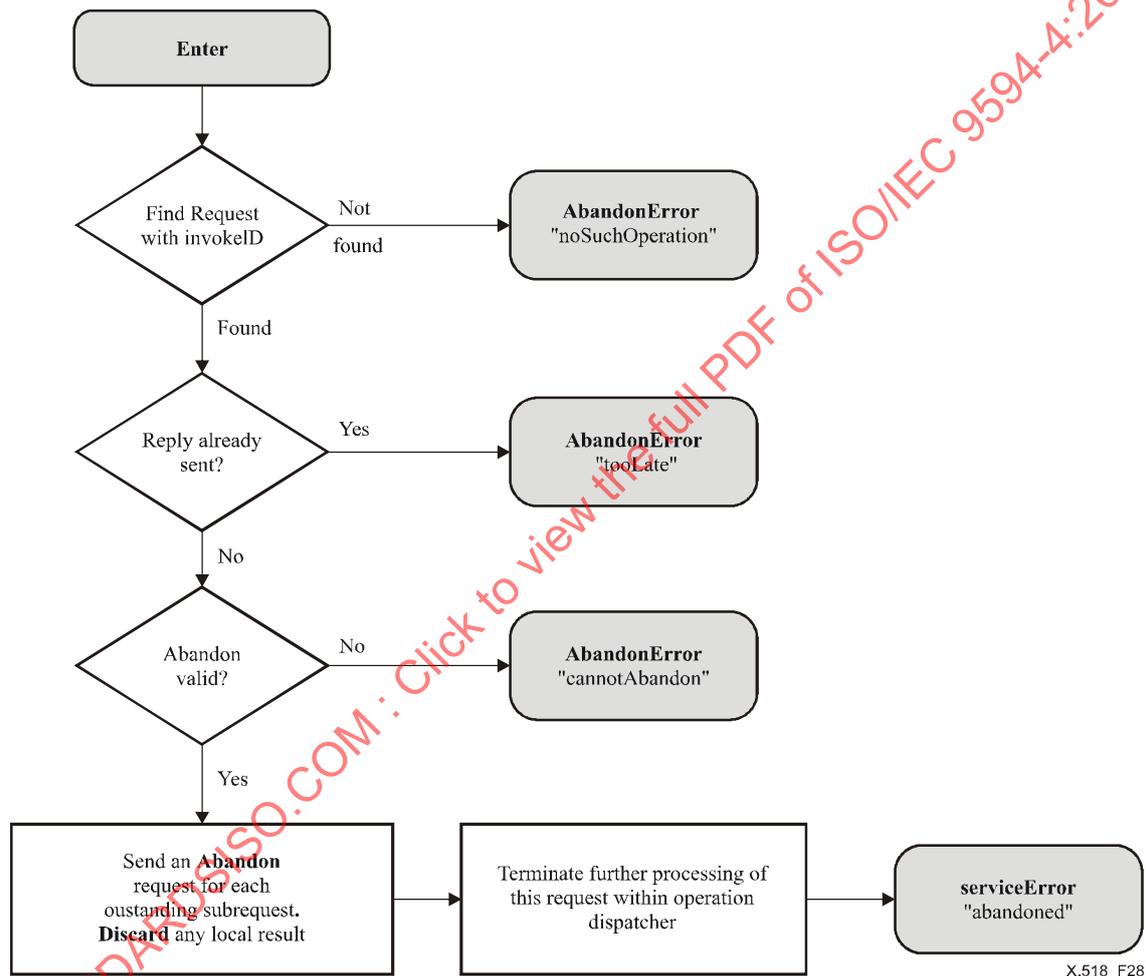


Figure 28 – DAP/DSP Abandon procedure

### 20.5.2 LDAP Abandon procedure

When an LDAP abandon request is to be handled by a DSA functioning as both the boundary DSA for the LDAP client issuing the request and the LDAP requester against an LDAP server serving the request, it shall forward the AbandonRequest to the LDAP server in question.

When an LDAP abandon request received by a boundary DSA is to be forwarded to or beyond an adjacent DSA, it shall be wrapped into an **ldapTransport** request and chained to the DSA in question.

A DSA acting as LDAP requester receiving a DSP request with an embedded LDAP **AbandonRequest**, shall forward the request unchanged to the LDAP server, except that the **MessageID** has to be changed to have a legal value for the LDAP application-association in question.

## 20.6 DAP request to LDAP request procedure

### 20.6.1 Introduction

The DAP request to LDAP request procedure is used when a DAP request that is not an **ldapTransport** request is to be converted to an LDAP request. This happens if the name resolution is not completed by the LDAP requester and the name resolution is to be continued in an LDAP server. If the name resolution is completed by the LDAP requester for an **addEntry** request, but the new entry is to be added to an LDAP server (see clause 20.6.8), then this procedure also applies.

### 20.6.2 General on conversion

- a) If the DSA does not support a critical extension or if it is not able to reflect a critical extension in the LDAP protocol, it shall return a **serviceError** with problem **unavailableCriticalExtension**.
- b) Attribute values of certain attributes requires a binary encoding (see IETF RFC 4522).
- c) The **MessageID** of an LDAP request shall be set as required on the LDAP connection. The DSA shall maintain information about the relationship between this **MessageID** and the DAP **InvokeId** in the incoming DAP request until the result of the LDAP request is returned or a time-out has occurred (see clause 20.7.1).
- d) An attribute received on the DAP shall be converted to an LDAP attribute. The LDAP information needed for the conversion is provided as part of the attribute type specification for the type of attribute. If such information or similar information is not available, the conversion is not possible. The behaviour in this situation is dependent on the type of operation to be converted.
- e) An attribute type specification received on the DAP shall be converted to an LDAP counterpart with syntax OID, as described in clause 9.2.25 of Rec. ITU-T X.520 | ISO/IEC 9594-6 and which may either be an object identifier in dot-decimal format or a descriptor. The LDAP information needed for the conversion is provided as part of the attribute type specification for the attribute type. If such information or similar information is not available, the conversion is not possible. The behaviour in this situation is dependent on the type of operation to be converted.
- f) An **EntryInformationSelection** (see clause 7.6 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3) received in a request on the DAP shall be converted to LDAP **AttributeSelection** and **typesOnly** LDAP **SearchRequest** components as follows:
  - The **typesOnly** component of the LDAP **SearchRequest** shall be set to **TRUE** if the **infoTypes** component of **EntryInformationSelection** of the DAP request is set to **attributeTypesOnly**. Otherwise, it shall be set to **FALSE**.
  - If the **EntryInformationSelection.contextSelection** and/or **EntryInformationSelection.returnContext** are present and are defined as non-critical, they shall be ignored. Otherwise, an error is returned as specified b) above.
  - If the **EntryInformationSelection.familyReturn** is present and is defined as non-critical, it shall be ignored. Otherwise, an error is returned as specified b) above.
  - Other components of **EntryInformationSelection** of the DAP request shall be converted as specified by clause 4.5.1.8 of IETF RFC 4511.
- g) The **pagedResults** component of a **list** or **search** request does not affect a resulting LDAP **SearchRequest**, but shall be retained to allow proper handling of the LDAP results.

### 20.6.3 Converting a DAP read request

A DAP **read** request shall be converted to an LDAP **SearchRequest**.

The **baseObject** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be the distinguished name given in the **object** component of the DAP **read** request converted as specified in IETF RFC 4514.

The **scope** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to **baseObject**.

The **derefAliases** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to **neverDerefAliases** if the **dontDereferenceAliases** service control option is set in the DAP **read** request. Otherwise, it shall be set to **derefFindingBaseObj**.

The **sizeLimit** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to zero.

The **timeLimit** component of the LDAP **search** request shall,

- if the DAP request has not been chained, be set to zero if the **timeLimit** service control of the DAP request is not present, or, if this service control is present, be set to its value; or
- if the DAP request has been chained, be set to zero if the **timeLimit** component of the **ChainedArguments** is not present, or, if this component is present, be set to its value minus the current time with the result rounded up to the nearest integer.

The **typesOnly** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set as specified in clause 20.6.2 item f).

The **filter** component of the LDAP **search** request shall consist of a single element by taking the **present** alternative with the value of **objectClass**.

The **attributes** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set as specified in clause 20.6.2 item f).

#### 20.6.4 Converting a DAP compare request

The DAP **compare** request shall be converted to an LDAP **CompareRequest**.

The **entry** component of the LDAP **CompareRequest** shall be the distinguished name given in the **object** component of the DAP compare request converted as specified in IETF RFC 4514.

The **ava** component of the LDAP **CompareRequest** shall be the **AttributeValueAssertion** data of the DAP compare request converted to LDAP format as specified in clause 4.1.6 of IETF RFC 4514.

The **CommonArguments** of the DAP request shall be ignored, except for the **noSubtypeMatch** service control option. If this service control option is set, then a **serviceError** with problem **notSupportedByLDAP** required shall be returned.

#### 20.6.5 Handling and converting a DAP abandon request

Based on the retained information about outstanding operation for the LDAP server in question, an LDAP requester shall check the validity according to the procedures in clause 20.5.1, steps 1) to 3) and if any of the steps apply, return the appropriated reply.

If the above does not apply an LDAP **AbandonRequest** shall be forwarded to the LDAP server. The **MessageID** of the LDAP **AbandonRequest** shall be the **MessageID** corresponding to the **InvokeID** component of the DAP request to be abandoned.

When forwarding an LDAP **AbandonRequest** to an LDAP server, a timer shall be started with a locally defined time value. If an LDAPResult is returned from the LDAP server for the operation to be abandoned before the timer expires, it shall discard possible result(s) for that operation and return:

- an **abandoned** error with the problem component absent shall be returned for the abandoned operation; and
- an **abandon** result shall be returned for the Abandon operation.

#### 20.6.6 Converting a DAP list request

A DAP **list** request shall be converted to an LDAP **SearchRequest**.

The **baseObject** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be the distinguished name given in the **object** component of the DAP **list** request.

The **scope** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to **singleLevel**.

The **derefAliases** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to **neverDerefAliases** if the **dontDereferenceAliases** service control option is set in the DAP **read** request. Otherwise, it shall be set to **derefFindingBaseObj**.

The **sizeLimit** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to zero if the **sizeLimit** service control is not present in the DAP request. Otherwise, it shall be set to the value specified in the **sizeLimit** service control in the DAP request.

The **timeLimit** component of the LDAP **search** request shall,

- if the DAP request has not been chained, be set to zero if the **timeLimit** service control of the DAP request is not present or, if this service control is present, be set to its value; or

- if the DAP request has been chained, be set to zero if the **timeLimit** component of the **ChainedArguments** is not present or, if this component is present, be set to its value minus the current time with the result rounded up to the nearest integer.

The **typesOnly** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to **FALSE**.

The **filter** component of the LDAP **search** request shall consist of a single element by taking the **present** alternative with the value of **objectClass**.

The **attributes** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to **noattrs** as specified in clause 4.5.1.8 of IETF RFC 4511.

### 20.6.7 Converting a DAP search request

A DAP **search** request shall be converted to an LDAP **SearchRequest**.

The **baseObject** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be the converted distinguished name given in the **baseObject** component of the DAP **search** request.

The **scope** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set according to **subset** component of the DAP request.

The **derefAliases** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to:

- **neverDerefAliases** if the **dontDereferenceAliases** service control option is set in the DAP **read** request and the **searchAliases** component of the DAP search request is set to **FALSE**.
- **derefInSearching** if the **dontDereferenceAliases** service control option is set in the DAP **read** request and the **searchAliases** component of the DAP search request is set to **TRUE**.
- **derefFindingBaseObj** if the **dontDereferenceAliases** service control option is not set in the DAP **read** request and the **searchAliases** component of the DAP search request is set to **FALSE**.
- **derefAlways** if the **dontDereferenceAliases** service control option is not set in the DAP **read** request and the **searchAliases** component of the DAP search request is set to **TRUE**.

The **sizeLimit** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set to zero if the **sizeLimit** service control is not present in the DAP request. Otherwise, it shall be set to the value specified in the **sizeLimit** service control in the DAP request.

The **timeLimit** component of the LDAP **search** request shall,

- if the DAP request has not been chained, be set to zero if the **timeLimit** service control of the DAP request is not present, or, if this service control is present, be set to its value; or
- if the DAP request has been chained, be set to zero if the **timeLimit** component of the **ChainedArguments** is not present, or, if this component is present, be set to its value minus the current time with the result rounded up to the nearest integer.

The **typesOnly** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set as specified in clause 20.6.2 item f)

The **filter** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set as follows:

- If the **filter** component is absent in the DAP request or has the value **and: {}**, then the **filter** component of the LDAP request shall consist of a single element by taking the **present** alternative with the value of **objectClass**.
- If the **filter** component is present in the DAP request, then the LDAP **filter** component shall be constructed to have the same effect. Possible context information in the DAP filter shall be ignored, unless it is marked critical (see clause 20.6.2 item a)).

The **attributes** component of the LDAP **search** request shall be set as specified in clause 20.6.2 item f).

### 20.6.8 Converting a DAP addEntry request

A DAP **addEntry** request shall be converted to an LDAP **AddRequest** if

- the **targetSystem** component is not present in the DAP **addEntry** request; or
- the **targetSystem** component is present in the DAP **addEntry** request, the immediate superior entry of the new entry is located within the LDAP requester, the **targetSystem** component is an LDAP access point and the DSA supports the **targetSystem** extension.

The **entry** component of the LDAP **AddRequest** shall be the converted distinguished name given in the **object** component of the DAP **addEntry** request.

The attributes component of the LDAP **AddRequest** shall be the set of attributes as given in the **entry** component of the DAP **addEntry** request converted as specified in clause 20.6.2 d).

If the **targetSystem** component is present in the DAP **addEntry** request and the immediate superior entry of the new entry is not located within the LDAP requester, then a **serviceError** with problem **unavailableCriticalExtension** shall be returned.

### 20.6.9 Converting a DAP removeEntry request

A DAP **removeEntry** request shall be converted to an LDAP **DelRequest** with a value being the converted distinguished name given in the **object** component of the DAP **list** request.

### 20.6.10 Converting a DAP modifyEntry request

A DAP **modifyEntry** request shall be converted to an LDAP **ModifyRequest**.

The **object** component of the LDAP **ModifyRequest** shall be the converted distinguished name given in the **object** component of the DAP **modifyEntry** request.

If the **EntryModification** data type of the DAP request includes an **alter** alternative and the LDAP server is not known to support the LDAP extended feature specified in IETF RFC 4525, it shall return a **serviceError** with problem **notSupportedByLDAP**.

If the **EntryModification** data type of the DAP request includes a **resetValue** alternative, it shall return a **serviceError** with problem **notSupportedByLDAP**.

The **changes** component of the LDAP **ModifyRequest** shall be converted to the **changes** component of the DAP **modifyEntry** as shown below:

- An **addAttribute** or **addValues** alternative of the DAP request shall be converted to a **change** component of the LDAP **ModifyRequest** where the **operation** subcomponent shall take the value **add** and the **modification** subcomponent shall hold the converted attributes specified by the DAP request.
- A **removeAttribute** alternative of the DAP request shall be converted to a **change** component of the LDAP **ModifyRequest** where the **operation** subcomponent shall take the value **delete** and with an empty **modification** subcomponent shall hold the converted attributes specified by the DAP request.
- A **removeValues** alternative of the DAP request shall be converted to a **change** component of the LDAP **ModifyRequest** where the **operation** subcomponent shall take the value **delete** and the **modification** subcomponent shall hold the converted attributes specified by the DAP request.
- A **replaceValues** alternative of the DAP request shall be converted to a **change** component of the LDAP **ModifyRequest** where the **operation** subcomponent shall take the value **replace** and the **modification** subcomponent shall hold the converted attributes specified by the DAP request.

If the **selection** component included in the DAP **modifyEntry** request is present, it shall be ignored unless **selectionOnModify** extension is marked as critical (see clause 20.6.2, item a).

### 20.6.11 Converting a DAP modifyDN request

A DAP **modifyDN** request shall be converted to an LDAP **ModifyDNRequest**

The **entry** component of the LDAP **modifyDN** request shall be the converted distinguished name given in the **object** component of the DAP **search** request.

The **newrdn** component of the LDAP **modifyDN** request shall be the RDN given in the **newRDN** component of the DAP request converted according to IETF RFC 4514.

The **deleteoldrdn** component of the LDAP **modifyDN** request shall be set to false, if the **deleteOldRDN** component of the DAP request is absent. Otherwise, it shall be set to the same value as in the **deleteOldRDN** component of the DAP request.

The **newSuperior** component of the LDAP request shall not be present if the **newSuperior** component is not present in the DAP request. Otherwise, the **newSuperior** component of the LDAP request shall be the converted distinguished name of the DAP request. This conversion may be performed in the case where the LDAP requester does not support the **newSuperior** extension.

## 20.7 LDAP result to DAP reply procedure

### 20.7.1 Introduction

The LDAP result to DAP reply procedure is used when the result of a converted DAP request is received with a non-error result code included.

### 20.7.2 General on conversion

An LDAP reference is converted to a **ContinuationReference** value, where

- a) The **targetObject** component shall hold the converted distinguished name held in the LDAP referral. If this name is not included in the referral, then this component shall be an empty sequence.
- b) The **aliasedRDNs** component shall be absent.
- c) the **operationProgress** component shall have an **OperationProgress** value as follows:
  - the **nameResolutionPhase** component shall be set to **notStarted**; and
  - the **nextRDNTToBeResolved** component shall be absent.
- d) The **rdnsResolved** component shall be absent.
- e) The **referenceType** component shall be set to **cross**.
- f) The **accessPoint** component shall hold a single **AccessPointInformation** value with a single **MasterOrShadowAccessPoint** value with the following:
  - The **AccessPoint** value shall have the following components:
    - i) the **ae-title** component shall be an empty distinguished name;
    - ii) the **address** component shall have the **pSelector**, **sSelector** and the **tSelector** subcomponents absent; and
  - The **category** component shall take the value **master** or be absent.
  - The **chainingRequired** component shall take the value **FALSE** or be absent.
- g) The **entryOnly** components.
- h) The **exclusions** component shall be absent.
- i) The **returnToDUA** component shall have the value **FALSE** or be absent.

### 20.7.3 Converting LDAP search results to DAP read result

The DAP **read** result shall be created on the receipt of the final **SearchResultDone** if it is a reply to a DAP **read** request and an error was not encountered.

If an LDAP **SearchResultEntry** is the result of a DAP **read** request, this result is converted to a DAP **read** result after the receipt of the final **SearchResultDone**:

- the **entry** component of the **read** result shall be the converted attributes in the **attributes** component of the LDAP result.
- the **modifyRights** component of the **read** result shall not be included.
- the **objectName** component of the LDAP result shall be ignored.

### 20.7.4 Converting LDAP compare result to a DAP compare result

The DAP **compare** result shall be created on the receipt of the final **SearchResultDone** if an error was not encountered.

The **CompareResultData** value shall have the following component:

- The **name** component, when present, shall take the value in the **targetObject** component of the **ChainingArguments** value. If that value is equal to the object component of the **ListArgumentData** value, it may be absent. Otherwise, it shall be present.
- The **matched** component shall have the value **TRUE** if the **resultCode** of the **LDAPResult** has the value **compareTrue**. If **resultCode** of the **LDAPResult** has the value **compareFalse**, this component shall have the value **FALSE**.
- The **fromEntry** component shall be absent or has the default value.
- The **matchedSubtype** component shall be absent.

- The **CommonResults** value shall be present with the **securityParameters** component included, if the result is to be signed (see clauses 9.2.1 and 9.2.3) of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

### 20.7.5 Converting LDAP search results to DAP list result

The DAP **list** result shall be created on the receipt of the final **SearchResultDone** if it is a reply to a DAP **list** request and an error was not encountered. The **listInfo** alternative of the **ListResultData** value shall be taken.

The **name** component, when present, shall take the value in the **targetObject** component of the **ChainingArguments** value. If that value is equal to the object component of the **ListArgumentData** value, it may be absent. Otherwise, it shall be present.

NOTE – An LDAP server does not report if an alias has been dereferenced within the LDAP server.

Each LDAP **SearchResultEntry** is converted to an element of the **subordinates** component as follows:

- a) The **rdn** subcomponent shall be the first RDN component of the **objectName** of the LDAP result.
- b) The **aliasEntry** and **fromEntry** subcomponents shall be absent or encoded with their default values.
- c) The **partialOutcomeQualifier** value shall be set as follows:
  - The **limitProblem** component shall be present if the LDAP **SearchResultDone** has a **resultCode** equal to either **timeLimitExceeded**, **sizeLimitExceeded** and **adminLimitExceeded** and shall encode accordingly.
  - The **unexplored** component shall be present if one or more **SearchResultReference** are received and shall then hold the set of converted references.
  - The **unavailableCriticalExtensions** component shall be present and have the value **TRUE** if the LDAP **SearchResultDone** has a **resultCode** equal to **unavailableCriticalExtensions**. Otherwise, it shall be absent or take the value **FALSE**.
  - The **unknownErrors** components shall be absent.
  - The **queryReference** component shall be coded according to the DSP paging requirements.
  - The **overspecFilter** component shall be absent.
  - The **notification** component shall be absent.
  - The **entryCount** component shall be absent.
- d) The **CommonResults** value shall set as specified in clause 7.4 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

### 20.7.6 Converting LDAP search results to DAP search result

The DAP **search** result shall be created on the receipt of the final **SearchResultDone** if it is a reply to a DAP **search** request and an error was not encountered. The **searchInfo** alternative of the **SearchResultData** value shall be taken.

The **name** component, when present, shall take the value in the **targetObject** component of the **ChainingArguments** value. If that value is equal to the object component of the **SearchArgumentData** value, it may be absent. Otherwise, it shall be present.

NOTE – An LDAP server does not report if an alias has been dereferenced within the LDAP server.

Each LDAP **SearchResultEntry** is converted to an element of the **entries** component as follows:

- a) The **name** subcomponent shall be the converted **objectName** of the LDAP result.
- b) The **fromEntry** subcomponent shall be absent or encoded with its default value.
- c) The **information** subcomponent shall take the **attributeType** alternative if the LDAP **SearchRequest** had the **typeOnly** component set to **true** and shall then hold the converted attribute type of the LDAP **SearchResultEntry**. Otherwise, the **attribute** alternative shall be taken and shall then hold the converted attribute of the LDAP **SearchResultEntry**.
- d) The **incompleteEntry**, **partialName** and **derivedEntry** components shall be absent or encoded with their default values.
- e) The **partialOutcomeQualifier** value shall be filled as specified in item c) of clause 20.7.5.
- f) The **CommonResults** value shall set as specified in clause 7.4 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3.

### 20.7.7 Converting LDAP AddResponse to DAP addEntry result

The DAP **addEntry** result shall be created on the receipt of the **SearchResultDone** if an error was not encountered.

The **information** component of the **AddEntryResult** value shall be taken if the result is to be signed (see clauses 11.1.1 and 11.1.3) of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. Otherwise, the **null** alternative shall be taken.

#### 20.7.8 Converting LDAP DelResponse to DAP removeEntry result

The DAP **removeEntry** result shall be created on receipt of the **SearchResultDone** if an error was not encountered.

The **information** component of the **RemoveEntryResult** value shall be taken if the result is to be signed (see clauses 11.2.1 and 11.2.3) of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. Otherwise, the **null** alternative shall be taken.

#### 20.7.9 Converting LDAP ModifyResponse to DAP modifyEntry result

The DAP **modifyEntry** result shall be created on receipt of the **SearchResultDone** if an error was not encountered.

The **information** component of the **ModifyEntryResult** value shall be taken if the result is to be signed with the **entry** component absent (see clauses 11.3.1 and 11.3.3) of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. Otherwise, the **null** alternative shall be taken.

#### 20.7.10 Converting LDAP ModifyDNResponse to DAP modifyDN result

The DAP **modifyDN** result shall be created on receipt of the **SearchResultDone** if an error was not encountered.

The **information alternative** of the **ModifyDNResult** value shall be taken if the result is to be signed. The **newRDN** component shall have the value given in the corresponding DAP request (see clauses 11.4.1 and 11.4.3) of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3. Otherwise, the **null** alternative shall be taken.

## 21 Results Merging procedure

The **Results Merging** procedure in Figure 29 is called following one of the **Continuation Reference** procedures. This procedure removes duplicates if the result is not signed, and if there are additional continuation references in **partialOutcomeQualifier.unexplored**. Then the relevant Continuation Reference procedure(s) is called, if local operational policy permits:

- 1) If the operation is a List operation, continue at step 2); if the operation is a Search operation, then continue at step 3); otherwise, return the result that was supplied as the input parameter to the **Results Merging** procedure.
- 2) The operation is a List operation. Remove all duplicates, giving preference to master information over shadow information.  
If the operation result was generated locally and it contains Continuation References, then these will not be used for chaining but returned to the user. In this case, continue at step 6).  
If the operation result was received as the result of a Chained List operation, then the result might contain Continuation References. In this case, check if the **preferChaining** service control was set. If **TRUE**, the Continuation References should be used for chaining by the DSA. Continue at step 4).
- 3) The operation is a Search operation. Remove all duplicates, giving preference to master information over shadow information. If there is a limit problem, then return the result. Otherwise, continue at step 4).
- 4) Process each Continuation Reference that is in the **partialOutcomeQualifier.unexplored** of the result of any chained operation. If the local policy decides not to use it for chaining, then ignore it and choose another Continuation Reference. If the local policy allows the use of the Continuation Reference for chaining, then perform the following:  
Check **nameResolutionPhase** that is supplied in the Continuation Reference. If it is **notStarted** or **proceeding**, then add it to the list of Continuation References that will be supplied to the **Name Resolution Continuation** procedure (**NRcontinuationList**). If **nameResolutionPhase** is **completed**, then add the Continuation Reference to the list of Continuation References that is supplied to the subrequest Continuation procedure (**SRcontinuationList**).  
Proceed until all Continuation References have been processed.
- 5) If there are Continuation References to be processed in **SRcontinuationList**, check the operation type. If the operation is a List operation, call the **List Continuation Reference** procedure and continue at step 2). If the operation is a Search operation, call the **Search Continuation Reference** procedure and continue at step 3).  
If **SRcontinuationList** is empty, then check if there are Continuation References in **NRcontinuationList**. If so, call the **Name Resolution Continuation Reference** procedure and continue at step 3).  
If both continuation lists are empty, continue at step 6).

- 6) Check whether the result is empty. If it is not empty, then return it. If it is empty, either return a **null result** if the access control and local policy allows, or return an appropriate error.

In case a DSA receives search or list results from other DSAs and such results have parameters unknown to the DSA, the uncorrelated results shall be returned. Otherwise, the DSA shall perform merging, if the search results are not signed, or if the DSA is an initial performer that is allowed to remove the signatures (see clause 7.9 of Rec. ITU-T X.511 | ISO/IEC 9594-3).

A DSA which has received unsigned, uncorrelated results from a DSA that was not able to perform consolidation, shall perform merging, if it has the proper knowledge of all parameters of the uncorrelated results.

If a DSA receives unsigned results from other DSAs, and possibly also has a local result and when generating an entry count to be returned in the **entryCount** of the **PartialOutcomeQualifier** generated by the DSA, the DSA shall take the sum of all **entryCount** values received, the local result and the number of entries received from DSAs that did not return an **entryCount** value and then compensate for duplicate entries. If the DSA is the initial performer and paged results have been requested, then it shall also include the entry counts for signed results from other DSAs.

If paged results are requested and no limit problem has been encountered by any DSA, then the DSA shall take the **exact** choice for the **entryCount** parameter. The same value shall be given for each returned page.

If one or more DSAs have encountered a limit problem, then:

- if all the DSAs that have encountered a limit problem have returned an **entryCount** with the **exact** or **bestEstimate** choice, it shall take the **bestEstimate** choice if just one DSA had taken that choice; otherwise, it shall take the **exact** choice;
- if just one DSA that has encountered a limit problem and has returned an **entryCount** with the choice **lowEstimate** or did not return an **entryCount**, it shall take the **lowEstimate** choice.



- For a DSA requiring to authenticate a DAP or LDAP request, the DSA acquires the distinguished name of the requester through the Bind procedures at the time a DUA association (DUA to DSA) or LDAP client association (LDAP client to DSA) is established. Successful conclusion of these procedures does not in any way prejudice the level of authentication that may subsequently be required for processing operations using that association.
- The DSA with which the DUA association exists shall insert the requester's distinguished name in the initiator field of the **ChainingArguments** for all subsequent chained operations to other DSAs.
- A DSA, on receiving a chained operation, may satisfy that operation, or not, depending upon the determination of access rights (a locally defined mechanism). If the outcome is not satisfactory, a **securityError** with problem **insufficientAccessRights** may be returned.

### 22.1.2 Signature-based requester authentication

This signature-based requester authentication service enables a DSA to authenticate (in a secure manner) the requester of a particular service request. The procedures to be effected by a DSA in realizing this service are described in this clause.

A DSA, on receiving a signed request from another DSA, shall remove that DSA's signature prior to processing the operation. Assuming the result of any signature verification proves to be satisfactory, the DSA will continue to progress the operation. If, during processing, the DSA needs to perform chaining, the argument set for each associated chained operation shall be constructed as follows:

- the DSA forms an argument set which may be optionally signed; the argument set comprises the incoming signed argument set together with a modified **ChainingArguments**.

In the event that the DSA is able to contribute information to the response, requester authentication, based upon the signed service request, may be used for the determination of access rights to that information.

If a DSA receives an unsigned service request for information which will only be released subject to requester authentication, a **securityError** with problem **protectionRequired** shall be returned.

### 22.2 Results authentication

This service is provided to enable requesters of directory operations (DUAs or DSAs) to verify (in a secure manner using digital signature techniques) the source of results. The results authentication service may be requested irrespective of whether requester authentication is to be used.

The results authentication service is initiated using the signed value of the **protectionRequest** component as contained within the argument set of directory operations; a DSA receiving an operation with this option selected may then optionally sign any subsequent results. The signed option in the protection request serves as an indication, to the DSA, of the requester's preference; the DSA may, or may not, actually sign any subsequent results.

In the case where a DSA performs chaining, the DSA has a number of options in terms of the form of results sent back to the requester, namely:

- a) return a composite response (signed or unsigned) to the requester;
- b) return a set of two or more uncollated partial responses (signed or unsigned) to the requester; within this set zero or more members may be signed and zero or one unsigned. In the event that an unsigned partial result is present, this member may in fact be a collation of one or more unsigned partial responses which have been received from other DSAs, contributed by this DSA, or both.

In the case where a DSA performs a join of related entries, then the DSA performing the join may sign the result.

## SECTION 6 – KNOWLEDGE ADMINISTRATION

**23 Knowledge administration overview**

To operate a widely distributed Directory with an acceptable degree of consistency and performance, procedures are required to create, maintain and extend the knowledge held by each DSA. The following mechanisms together are used to administer a DSA's knowledge.

- a) *Hierarchical and non-specific hierarchical operational bindings* – These procedures and protocols are defined in clauses 24 and 25. They are used to create and maintain subordinate references, non-specific subordinate references, and immediate superior references, as well as the context prefix information for naming contexts. These operational bindings are established between master DSAs holding naming contexts that are hierarchically related to each other as immediate subordinate to immediate superior. The procedures may be triggered as a side effect of modifying the RDN of, or adding or removing an entry, whose immediate superior is not held in the same DSA that holds the entry.
- b) *Shadowing operational bindings* – These procedures and protocols are defined in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9. They are used to create and maintain knowledge references in two ways. First, as a side effect of establishing (or terminating) shadowing agreements, access points are added (or removed) from the **consumerKnowledge** and optionally the **secondaryShadow** operational attributes. This information may then be used by the procedures and protocols discussed above to update the subordinate reference in the superior master DSA and the immediate superior reference in the subordinate master DSA. Second, the DISP propagates the knowledge references held by master DSAs to shadow consumer DSAs.
- c) *Cross-references* – Cross-reference distribution is a feature of the DSP. Its use to create and maintain cross-references is summarized in clause 23.2.

NOTE – Mechanisms for initializing and maintaining the superior reference and **myAccessPoint** are outside the scope of this Directory Specification.

**23.1 Maintenance of knowledge references**

This clause describes how the DOP is used to maintain DSA operational attributes that express knowledge. A simple example of the relationship between knowledge attributes and the protocols employed to maintain them is described in Annex E.

**23.1.1 Maintenance of consumer knowledge by supplier and master DSAs**

A consumer reference is expressed through a value of the **consumerKnowledge** attribute, held by a shadow supplier DSA and associated with the context prefix for a naming context; a supplier reference, through a value of the **supplierKnowledge** attribute, held by a shadow consumer DSA and also associated with the context prefix for a naming context. Both attributes are held in DSEs of type **cp**. A value of each one of these attributes is created on establishment of the Shadow Operational Binding, and updated on modification of the Shadow Operational Binding.

A supplier DSA may obtain the information to construct values of the **secondaryShadows** attribute if the optional **secondaryShadows** component of its **ShadowingAgreementInfo** with a consumer is **TRUE**. In this case, whenever the consumer DSA detects that the set of DSAs holding copies of the commonly usable replicated area (its consumers, or, in turn, consumers of its consumers, etc., to whatever depth secondary shadowing might be carried) has changed (by addition, modification or deletion of access points), it communicates this new information (a set-of **SupplierAndConsumers**) by means of a **modifyOperationalBinding** operation, as described in Rec. ITU-T X.525 | ISO/IEC 9594-9.

A supplier DSA maintains its own **secondaryShadows** attribute associated with the context prefix as follows:

- a) The set of **SupplierAndConsumers** received from a consumer by means of a **modifyOperationalBinding** operation may be used to create, or replace values of the attribute. The supplier component of **SupplierAndConsumers** represents the access point of a consumer DSA (or of its consumers, etc. depending upon the depth of secondary shadowing); the consumers component, the set of the consumer's consumers (or of their consumers, etc. depending upon the depth of secondary shadowing).

- b) Every consumer providing its supplier with a **modifyOperationalBinding** operation containing a set of **SupplierAndConsumers**, includes the following values: the values of its **secondaryShadows** attribute, and a newly constructed value. This value is constructed using its own access point, **myAccessPoint**, (as the supplier component), and the values of the consumers' access points, contained within the **consumerKnowledge** attribute, that represent consumers holding commonly usable shadows (as the consumers component).

Recursive use of this procedure permits a master DSA for a naming context to know all about its secondary shadow consumer DSAs holding commonly usable replicated areas derived from the naming context. This information is then available for the maintenance of subordinate, non-specific subordinate and immediate superior references.

### 23.1.2 Maintenance of subordinate and immediate superior knowledge in master DSAs

A subordinate reference is expressed through a value of the **specificKnowledge** attribute, held in a DSE of type **subr** by the DSA holding the immediately superior naming context to that referenced; an immediate superior reference, through a value of the **specificKnowledge** attribute, held in a DSE of type **immSupr** by the DSA holding the immediately subordinate naming context to that referenced. A value of each one of these attributes is created in the superior and subordinate master DSAs on establishment of the HOB, and updated on modification of the HOB.

A subordinate master DSA provides a superior master DSA the information to construct its subordinate reference via the **accessPoints** component of the **SubordinateToSuperior** parameter it transfers to the superior in the DOP. The information included in **accessPoints** is determined by values of attributes held by the subordinate DSA as follows:

- a) The value of the **myAccessPoint** attribute (held in the root DSE) is used to form the element in **accessPoints** with **category** having the value **master**.
- b) The values of the **consumerKnowledge** and **secondaryShadows** (both held in the subordinate context prefix DSE) are used to form additional elements in **accessPoints** with **category** having the value **shadow**.

A superior master DSA provides a subordinate master DSA with the information to construct its immediate superior reference via the **contextPrefixInfo** component of the **SuperiorToSubordinate** parameter it transfers to the subordinate in the DOP. This component is a value of type **SEQUENCE OF Vertex**, containing a sequence of elements corresponding to the path from the root of the DIT to the subordinate context prefix. For one of these elements, corresponding to the context prefix of the immediately superior naming context, the optional component **accessPoints** will be present. The subordinate DSA holds this information as a **specificKnowledge** attribute in the DSE, of type **immSupr**, corresponding to this element of **contextPrefixInfo**. The information included in **accessPoints** by the superior DSA is determined by values of attributes held by the superior DSA as follows:

- a) The value of the **myAccessPoint** attribute (held in the root DSE) is used to form the element in **accessPoints** with **category** having the value **master**.
- b) The values of the **consumerKnowledge** and **secondaryShadows** (both held in the superior context prefix DSE) are used to form additional elements in **accessPoints** with **category** having the value **shadow**.

NOTE – Only those access points corresponding to consumer DSAs receiving commonly usable replicated areas should be selected by the superior and subordinate DSAs from their **consumerKnowledge** attributes for inclusion in **accessPoints**. The procedures for the construction of **secondaryShadows** guarantee that these access points will identify shadow DSAs holding commonly usable replicated areas.

### 23.1.3 Maintenance of subordinate and immediate superior knowledge in consumer DSAs

A shadow consumer DSA contracting with its supplier to receive the immediate superior and subordinate knowledge associated with a unit of replication, in effect, contracts to have its immediate superior and subordinate references maintained by its shadow supplier DSA via the DISP.

NOTE – For certain units of replication specifications, it may be necessary for the consumer DSA to contract to receive **extendedKnowledge** in order that subordinate knowledge may be provided to it by its supplier.

## 23.2 Requesting cross reference

To improve the performance of the Directory System, the local set of cross references can be expanded using ordinary Directory operations. If a DSA supports the DSP, it may request another DSA (which also supports the DSP) to return those knowledge references which contain information about the location of naming contexts related to the target object name of an ordinary Directory operation.

If the **returnCrossRefs** component of the **ChainingArguments** is set to **TRUE**, the **crossReferences** component of the **ChainingResults** may be present, consisting of a sequence of cross reference items.