Kantara Initiative eGovernment Implementation Profile of SAML V2.0

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17 18 19 20 21	Abstract: This document contains an implementation profile for eGovernment use of SAML V2.0, suitable for the purposes of testing conformance of implementations of SAML V2.0. It is not a deployment profile, and does not provide for or reflect specific behavior expected of implementations when used within a particular deployment context.
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1 Introduction 112

- SAML V2.0 is a rich and extensible standard that must be profiled to be used interoperably, and the 113
- profiles that typically emerge from the broader standardization process usually remain fairly broad and 114
- include a number of options and features that increase the burden for implementers and make 115
- deployment-time decisions more difficult. 116
- The Kantara Initiative eGovernment Implementation Profile provides a SAML V2.0 conformance 117
- specification for Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations operating in eGovernment 118
- federations and deployments. The profile is based on the SAML V2.0 specifications created by the 119
- Security Services Technical Committee (SSTC) of OASIS, and related specifications approved by that
- body. It constrains and supplements the base SAML V2.0 features, elements, and attributes required for
- eGovernment federations and deployments. 122
- 123 Implementation profiles define the features that software implementations must support such that
- deployers can be assured of the ability to meet their own (possibly varied) deployment requirements. 124
- Deployment profiles define specific options and constraints to which deployments are required to conform; 125
- they guide product configuration and federation operations, and provide criteria against which actual 126
- deployments may be tested. This document does not include a deployment profile, but reflects the 127
- features deemed necessary or desirable from software implementations in support of a variety of 128
- 129 deployment profiles planned and in use. This includes requirements deemed useful to further the eventual
- goal of interfederation between deployments. 130

1.1 Notation

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- This specification uses normative text to describe the use of SAML capabilities. 132
- The keywords "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this specification are to be interpreted as 133
- 134
- described in [RFC2119]: 135
- ...they MUST only be used where it is actually required for interoperation or to limit behavior 136 which has potential for causing harm (e.g., limiting retransmissions)... 137
 - These keywords are thus capitalized when used to unambiguously specify requirements over protocol and application features and behavior that affect the interoperability and security of implementations. When these words are not capitalized, they are meant in their natural-language sense.
 - Listings of XML schemas appear like this.
- 142 Example code listings appear like this. 143
- Conventional XML namespace prefixes are used throughout the listings in this specification to stand for 144 their respective namespaces as follows, whether or not a namespace declaration is present in the 145 example: 146
- The prefix sam12: stands for the SAML 2.0 assertion namespace. 147 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion 148
- The prefix sam12p: stands for the SAML 2.0 protocol namespace, 149 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol 150
- The prefix md: stands for the SAML 2.0 metadata namespace, 151 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata 152
- The prefix idpdisc: stands for the Identity Provider Discovery Service Protocol and Profile 153 [IdPDisco] namespace, urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:profiles:SSO:idp-discovery-154 protocol 155

- The prefix mdattr: stands for the Metadata Extension for Entity Attributes Version 1.0 [MetaAttr]
 namespace, urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:attribute
- This specification uses the following typographical conventions in text: <ns:Element>, Attribute,

 Datatype, OtherCode.

2 SAML V2.0 Implementation Profile

- 161 This profile specifies behavior and options that implementations of a selected set of SAML V2.0 profiles
- 162 [SAML2Prof] are required to support. The requirements specified are in addition to all normative
- requirements of the original profiles, as modified by the Approved Errata [SAML2Err], and readers should
- be familiar with all relevant reference documents. Any such requirements are not repeated here except
- where deemed necessary to highlight a point of discussion or draw attention to an issue addressed in
- 166 errata, but remain implied.

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- SAML leaves substantial latitude to implementations with regard to how software is architected and
- 168 combined with authentication and application infrastructure. Where the terms "Identity Provider" and
- "Service Provider" are used, they should be understood to include the total software footprint intended to
- provide the desired functionality: no specific assumptions are made as to how the required features are
- exposed to deployers, only that there is some method for doing so.

2.1 Required Information

- 173 Identification: http://kantarainitiative.org/eGov/profiles/SAML2.0/v2.0
- 174 Contact information: http://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/display/eGov/Home
- 175 **Description:** Given below
- 176 **Updates:** Liberty Alliance eGov Profile for SAML 2.0 [eGov15]

2.2 Metadata and Trust Management

- 178 Identity Provider, Service Provider, and Discovery Service implementations MUST support the use of
- SAML V2.0 Metadata [SAML2Meta] in conjunction with their support of the SAML V2.0 profiles referenced
- by subsequent sections. Additional expectations around the use of particular metadata elements related to
- profile behavior may be encountered in those sections.

2.2.1 Metadata Profiles

- Implementations MUST support the SAML V2.0 Metadata Interoperability Profile Version 1.0 [MetaIOP].
- - Implementations MUST support the <ds:X509Certificate> element as input to subsequent requirements. Support for other <u>key</u> representations, and for other mechanisms for credential distribution, is OPTIONAL.
 - Implementations MUST support some form of path validation of signing, TLS, and encryption
 credentials used to secure SAML exchanges against one or more trusted certificate authorities.
 Support for PKIX [RFC5280] is RECOMMENDED; implementations SHOULD document the
 behavior of the validation mechanisms they employ, particular with respect to limitations or
 divergence from PKIX [RFC5280].
- Implementations MUST support the use of OCSP [RFC2560] and eCertificate rRevocation Lists (CRLs) obtained via the "CRL Distribution Point" X.509 extension [RFC5280] for revocation checking of those credentials.
 - Implementations MAY support additional constraints on the contents of certificates used by particular entities, such as "subjectAltName" or "DN", key usage constraints, or policy extensions, but SHOULD document such features and make them optional to enable where possible.

- Note that these metadata profiles are intended to be mutually exclusive within a given deployment context;
- they are alternatives, rather than complimentary or compatible uses of the same metadata information.
- 202 Implementations SHOULD support the SAML V2.0 Metadata Extension for Entity Attributes Version 1.0
- [MetaAttr] and provide policy controls on the basis of SAML attributes supplied via this extension
- 204 mechanism.

205 2.2.2 Metadata Exchange

- 206 It is OPTIONAL for implementations to support the generation or exportation of metadata, but
- implementations MUST support the publication of metadata using the Well-Known-Location method
- defined in section 4.1 of [SAML2Meta] (under the assumption that entityID values used are suitable for
- 209 such support).
- 210 Implementations MUST support the following mechanisms for the importation of metadata:
- local file
- remote resource at fixed location accessible via HTTP 1.1 [RFC2616] or HTTP 1.1 over TLS/SSL [RFC2818]
- 214 In the case of HTTP resolution, implementations MUST support use of the "ETag" and "Last-Modified"
- 215 headers for cache management. Implementations SHOULD support the use of more than one fixed
- location for the importation of metadata, but MAY leave their behavior unspecified if a single entity's
- 217 metadata is present in more than one source.
- 218 Importation of multiple entities' metadata contained within an <md:EntitiesDescriptor> element
- 219 MUST be supported.

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- Finally, implementations SHOULD allow for the automated updating/reimportation of metadata without
- 221 service degradation or interruption.

2.2.2.1 Metadata Verification

- Verification of metadata, if supported, MUST include XML signature verification at least at the root element level, and SHOULD support the following mechanisms for signature key trust establishment:
- Direct comparison against known keys.
- Some form of path-based certificate validation against one or more trusted certificate authorities,
 along with certificate revocation lists and/or OCSP [RFC2560]. Support for PKIX [RFC5280] is
 RECOMMENDED; implementations SHOULD document the behavior of the validation
- mechanisms they employ, particular with respect to limitations or divergence from PKIX
- 230 [RFC5280].

2.3 Name Identifiers

- 232 In conjunction with their support of the SAML V2.0 profiles referenced by subsequent sections, Identity
- 233 Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the following SAML V2.0 name identifier
- formats, in accordance with the normative obligations associated with them by [SAML2Core]:
- urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:nameid-format:persistent
- urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:nameid-format:transient
- 237 Support for other formats is OPTIONAL.

2.4 Attributes

- 239 In conjunction with their support of the SAML V2.0 profiles referenced by subsequent sections, Identity
- 240 Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the generation and consumption of
- 241 <saml2: Attribute > elements that conform to the SAML V2.0 X.500/LDAP Attribute Profile [SAML-
- 242 X5001.

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- The ability to support <sam12:AttributeValue> elements whose values are not simple strings (e.g.,)
- 244 <saml2:NameID>, or other XML values) is OPTIONAL. Such content could be base64-encoded as an
- 245 alternative.

246 2.5 Browser Single Sign-On

247 This section defines an implementation profile of the SAML V2.0 Web Browser SSO Profile [SAML2Prof].

248 2.5.1 Identity Provider Discovery

- 249 Service Provider and Discovery Service implementations MUST support the Identity Provider Discovery
- Service Protocol Profile in conformance with section 2.4.1 of [IdPDisco].

2.5.2 Authentication Requests

252 2.5.2.1 Binding and Security Requirements

- 253 Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the use of the HTTP-Redirect
- binding [SAML2Bind] for the transmission of <saml2p:AuthnRequest> messages, including the
- 255 generation or verification of signatures in conjunction with this binding.
- 256 Support for other bindings is OPTIONAL.

257 2.5.2.2 Message Content

- 258 In addition to standard core- and profile-driven requirements, Service Provider implementations MUST
- support the inclusion of at least the following <saml2p:AuthnRequest> child elements and attributes
- 260 (when appropriate):
- AssertionConsumerServiceURL
- ProtocolBinding
- ForceAuthn
- 264 IsPassive
- AttributeConsumingServiceIndex
- <saml2p:RequestedAuthnContext>
- 268 | •
- 269 Identity Provider implementations MUST support all <saml2p: AuthnRequest> child elements and
- attributes defined by [SAML2Core], but MAY provide that support in the form of returning appropriate
- 271 errors when confronted by particular request options. However, implementations MUST fully support the
- options enumerated above-, and be configurable to utilize those options in a useful manner as defined by
- 273 SAML2Core

- 274 Implementations MAY limit their support of the <saml2p: RequestedAuthnContext> element to the
- 275 value "exact" for the Comparison attribute, but MUST otherwise support any allowable content of the
- 276 element.
- 277 Identity Provider implementations MUST support verification of requested
- 278 AssertionConsumerServiceURL locations via comparison to <md:AssertionConsumerService>
- 279 elements supplied via metadata using case-sensitive string comparison. It is OPTIONAL to support other
- 280 means of comparison (e.g., canonicalization or other manipulation of URL values) or alternative verification
- 281 mechanisms.

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2.5.3 Responses

283 2.5.3.1 Binding and Security Requirements

- 284 Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the use of the HTTP-POST and
- 285 HTTP-Artifact bindings [SAML2Bind] for the transmission of <saml2p:Response> messages.
- Support for other bindings, and for artifact types other than
- urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:artifact-04, is OPTIONAL.
- 288 Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the generation and consumption of
- 289 unsolicited <sam12p: Response> messages (i.e., responses that are not the result of a
- 290 <saml2p:AuthnRequest> message).
- 291 Identity Provider implementations MUST support the issuance of <saml2p:Response> messages (with
- appropriate status codes) in the event of an error condition, provided that the user agent remains available
- and an acceptable location to which to deliver the response is available. The criteria for "acceptability" of a
- response location are not formally specified, but are subject to Identity Provider policy and reflect its
- responsibility to protect users from being sent to untrusted or possibly malicious parties. Note that this is a
- stronger requirement than the comparable language in [SAML2Prof].
- 297 Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the signing of
- 298 <saml2: Assertion> elements in responses; support for signing of the <saml2p: Response> element
- 299 is OPTIONAL.
- 300 Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the use of XML Encryption via the
- 301 <sam12:EncryptedAssertion> element when using the HTTP-POST binding; support for the
- 302 <saml2:EncryptedID> and <saml2:EncryptedAttribute> elements is OPTIONAL.

303 2.5.3.2 Message Content

- The Web Browser SSO Profile allows responses to contain any number of assertions and statements.
- 305 Identity Provider implementations MUST allow the number of <saml2:Assertion>,
- 306 <saml2:AuthnStatement>, and <saml2:AttributeStatement> elements in the
- 307 | <saml2p:Response> message to be limited to one.
- In turn, Service Provider implementations MAY limit support to a single instance of those elements when
- 309 processing <saml2p:Response> messages.
- 310 Identity Provider implementations MUST support the inclusion of a Consent attribute in
- 311 <saml2p:Response> messages, and a SessionIndex attribute in <saml2:AuthnStatement>
- 312 elements.
- 313 Service Provider implementations that provide some form of session semantics MUST support the
- 314 <saml2: AuthnStatement> element's SessionNotOnOrAfter attribute.
- 315 | Service Provider implementations MUST support the acceptance/rejection of assertions based on the
- 316 content of the <sam12: AuthnStatement> element's <sam12: AuthnContext> element.

- 317 Implementations also MUST support the acceptance/rejection of particular <saml2:AuthnContext>
- content based on the identity of the Identity Provider. [IAP] provides one such mechanism via SAML V2.0
- metadata and is RECOMMENDED; though this specification is in draft form, the technical details are not
- 320 <u>expected to change prior to eventual approval.</u>

321 2.5.4 Artifact Resolution

- Pursuant to the requirement in section 2.5.3.1 for support of the HTTP-Artifact binding [SAML2Bind] for
- 323 the transmission of <saml2p: Response> messages, implementations MUST support the SAML V2.0
- 324 Artifact Resolution profile [SAML2Prof] as constrained by the following subsections.

2.5.4.1 Artifact Resolution Requests

- 326 Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the use of the SAML SOAP (using
- 327 HTTP as a transport) binding [SAML2Bind] for the transmission of <sam12p:ArtifactResolve>
- 328 messages.

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- 329 Implementations MUST support the use of SAML message signatures and TLS server authentication to
- authenticate requests; support for TLS client authentication, or other forms of authentication in conjunction
- with the SAML SOAP binding, is OPTIONAL.

2.5.4.2 Artifact Resolution Responses

- 333 Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the use of the SAML SOAP (using
- 334 HTTP as a transport) binding [SAML2Bind] for the transmission of <saml2p:ArtifactResponse>
- 335 messages.

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- 336 Implementations MUST support the use of SAML message signatures and TLS server authentication to
- authenticate responses; support for TLS client authentication, or other forms of authentication in
- conjunction with the SAML SOAP binding, is OPTIONAL.

2.6 Browser Holder of Key Single Sign-On

- This section defines an implementation profile of the SAML V2.0 Holder-of-Key Web Browser SSO Profile
- 341 Version 1.0 [HoKSSO].
- The implementation requirements defined in section 2.5 for the non-holder-of-key profile apply to
- implementations of this profile.

2.7 SAML 2.0 Proxying

- 345 Section 3.4.1.5 of [SAML2Core] defines a formalized approach to proxying the SAML 2.0 Authentication
- 346 Request protocol between multiple Identity Providers. This section defines an implementation profile for
- this behavior suitable for composition with the Single Sign-On profiles defined in sections 2.5 and 2.6.
- The requirements of the profile are imposed on Identity Provider implementations acting as a proxy.
- These requirements are in addition to the technical requirements outlined in section 3.4.1.5.1 of
- 350 [SAML2Core], which also MUST be supported.

2.7.1 Authentication Requests

- Proxying Identity Provider implementations MUST support the mapping of incoming to outgoing
- 353 <saml2p:RequestedAuthnContext> and <saml2p:NameIDPolicy> elements, such that deployers
- may choose to pass through values or map between different vocabularies as required.

- 355 Proxying Identity Provider implementations MUST support the suppression/eliding of
- 356 <saml2p:RequesterID> elements from outgoing <saml2p:AuthnRequest> messages to allow for
- 357 hiding the identity of the Service Provider from proxied Identity Providers.

2.7.2 Responses

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- 359 Proxying Identity Provider implementations MUST support the mapping of incoming to outgoing
- 360 <saml2:AuthnContext> elements, such that deployers may choose to pass through values or map
- between different vocabularies as required.
- 362 Proxying Identity Provider implementations MUST support the suppression of
- 363 <saml2:AuthenticatingAuthority> elements from outgoing <saml2:AuthnContext> elements
- to allow for hiding the identity of the proxied Identity Provider from Service Providers.

365 2.8 Single Logout

- This section defines an implementation profile of the SAML V2.0 Single Logout Profile [SAML2Prof].
- For clarification, the technical requirements for each message type below reflect the intent to normatively
- 368 require initiation of logout by a Service Provider using either the front- or back-channel, and
- initiation/propagation of logout by an Identity Provider using the back-channel.

2.8.1 Logout Requests

2.8.1.1 Binding and Security Requirements

- 372 Identity Provider implementations MUST support the SAML SOAP (using HTTP as a transport) binding
- 373 [SAML2Bind] for the issuance of <saml2p:LogoutRequest> messages, and MUST support the SAML
- 374 SOAP (using HTTP as a transport) and HTTP-Redirect bindings [SAML2Bind] for the reception of
- 375 <saml2p:LogoutRequest> messages.
- 376 Service Provider implementations MUST support the SAML SOAP (using HTTP as a transport) binding
- 377 [SAML2Bind] for both issuance and reception of <saml2p:LogoutRequest> messages.
- 378 Support for other bindings is OPTIONAL.
- 379 Implementations MUST support the use of SAML message signatures and TLS server authentication to
- 380 authenticate <sam12p:LogoutRequest> messages; support for TLS client authentication, or other
- forms of authentication in conjunction with the SAML SOAP binding, is OPTIONAL.
- 382 Identity Provider and Service Provider implementations MUST support the use of XML Encryption via the
- 383 <sam12:EncryptedID> element when using the HTTP-Redirect binding.

2.8.1.2 User Interface Behavior

- Identity Provider implementations MUST support both user-initiated termination of the local session only
- 386 and user-initiated Single Logout. Upon receipt of a <saml2p:LogoutRequest> message via a front-
- channel binding, Identity Provider implementations MUST support user intervention governing the choice
- of propagating logout to other Service Providers, or limiting the operation to the Identity Provider. Of
- course, implementations MUST return status information to the requesting entity (e.g. partial logout
- indication) as appropriate.

- 391 Service Provider implementations MUST support both user-initiated termination of the local session only
- and user-initiated Single Logout.

Identity Provider implementations MUST also support the administrative initiation of Single Logout for any active session, subject to appropriate policy.

2.8.2 Logout Responses

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2.8.2.1 Binding and Security Requirements

- 397 Identity Provider implementations MUST support the SAML SOAP (using HTTP as a transport) and
- 398 HTTP-Redirect bindings [SAML2Bind] for the issuance of <saml2p:LogoutResponse> messages, and
- 399 MUST support the SAML SOAP (using HTTP as a transport) binding [SAML2Bind] for the reception of
- Service Provider implementations MUST support the SAML SOAP (using HTTP as a transport) binding
- 402 [SAML2Bind] for both issuance and reception of <saml2p:LogoutResponse> messages.
- 403 Support for other bindings is OPTIONAL.
- Implementations MUST support the use of SAML message signatures and TLS server authentication to
- 405 authenticate <saml2p:LogoutResponse> messages; support for TLS client authentication, or other
- forms of authentication in conjunction with the SAML SOAP binding, is OPTIONAL.

3 Conformance Classes

408 3.1 Standard

407

- 409 Conforming Identity Provider and/or Service Provider implementations MUST support the normative
- 410 requirements in sections 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, and 2.5.

411 3.1.1 Signature and Encryption Algorithms

- Implementations MUST support the signature and digest algorithms identified by the following URIs in
- conjunction with the creation and verification of XML Signatures [XMLSig]:
- http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldsig-more#rsa-sha256 (defined in [RFC4051])
- http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#sha256 (defined in [XMLEnc])
- Implementations SHOULD support the signature and digest algorithms identified by the following URIs in conjunction with the creation and verification of XML Signatures [XMLSig]:
- http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmldsig-more#ecdsa-sha256 (defined in [RFC4051])
- Implementations MUST support the block encryption algorithms identified by the following URIs in conjunction with the use of XML Encryption [XMLEnc]:
- http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes128-cbc
- http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes256-cbc
- Implementations MUST support the key transport algorithms identified by the following URIs in conjunction with the use of XML Encryption [XMLEnc]:
- 427 http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-oaep-mgf1p
- 428 Implementations SHOULD support the key agreement algorithms identified by the following URIs in
- 429 conjunction with the use of XML Encryption [XMLEnc]:
- http://www.w3.org/2009/xmlenc11#ECDH-ES (defined in [XMLEnc11])
- 431 (This is a Last Call Working Draft of XML Encryption 1.1, and this normative requirement is contingent on W3C ratification of this specification without normative changes to this algorithm's definition.)
- 435 Support for other algorithms is OPTIONAL.

3.2 Standard with Logout

- 437 Conforming Identity Provider and/or Service Provider implementations MUST meet the conformance
- 438 requirements in section 3.1, and MUST in addition support the normative requirements in section 2.8.

3.3 Full

- 440 Conforming Identity Provider and/or Service Provider implementations MUST meet the conformance
- requirements in section 3.1, and MUST in addition support the normative requirements in sections 2.6,
- 442 2.7, and 2.8.

443 4 References

4.1 Normative References

445 446	[RFC2119]	IETF RFC 2119, Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels, March 1997. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt
447 448	[RFC2560]	IETF RFC 2560, X.509 Internet Public Key Infrastructure Online Certificate Status Protocol, June 1999. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2560.txt
449 450	[RFC2616]	IETF RFC 2616, <i>Hypertext Transfer Protocol – HTTP/1.1</i> , June 1999. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2616.txt
451	[RFC2818]	IETF RFC 2818, HTTP Over TLS, May 2000. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2818.txt
452 453	[RFC4051]	IETF RFC 4051, Additional XML Security Uniform Resource Identifiers, April 2005. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4051.txt
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457 458 459	[HoKSSO]	OASIS Committee Specification, SAML V2.0 Holder-of-Key Web Browser SSO Profile Version 1.0, July 2009. http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/Post2.0/sstc-saml-holder-of-key-browser-sso-cs-01.pdf
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Appendix A. Change LogRevision History

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- Draft 01: first working draft based on similar document created by InCommon Federation
 - Draft 02: first round of feedback incorporated, deployment section dropped, new section on Artifact Resolution added, artifact added for SSO responses, SOAP added for logout, discovery moved under SSO, language on non-string attributes added, changed SHOULD to MUST for IdP support of selected AuthnRequest features
 - Draft 03: moved Artifact Resolution into a SSO profile subsection, new language on SOAP security and SLO bindings, added metadata publication via WKL, added language on IdP error handling, added Holder of Key SSO profile, added Conformance Classes
 - Draft 04: added UI language around SLO, layered conformance language and added MTI algorithms, added section for Proxying
 - Draft 05: revised language for IdP error handling, added text on ACS checking, added proxying privacy language, heavily revised metadata section and added a "pseudo-profile" for combining certificates in metadata with PKI as an IOP alternative
 - Draft 06: added normative reference to RFC5280 in path validation text, expanded algorithm requirements, added sentence on administrative logout
 - <u>Draft 07, clarifications on AuthnContext support and reference to IAP, additional algorithm reference, change to boilerplate sections to match Kantara template</u>