



2 SAML 2.0 profile of XACML v2.0

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11 Abstract:

12 This specification defines a profile for the use of the OASIS Security Assertion Markup
13 Language (SAML) Version 2.0 to carry XACML 2.0 policies, policy queries and responses,
14 authorization decisions, and authorization decision queries and responses. It also
15 describes the use of SAML 2.0 Attribute Assertions with XACML.

16 Status:

17 This version of the specification is an approved OASIS Standard.

18 Access Control TC members should send comments on this specification to the
19 xacml@lists.oasis-open.org list. Others should use the comment form at [http://oasis-](http://oasis-open.org/committees/comments/form.php?wg_abbrev=xacml)
20 [open.org/committees/comments/form.php?wg_abbrev=xacml](http://oasis-open.org/committees/comments/form.php?wg_abbrev=xacml).

21 For information on whether any patents have been disclosed that may be essential to
22 implementing this specification, and any offers of patent licensing terms, please refer to
23 the Intellectual Property Rights section of the Access Control TC web page
24 (<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/xacml/ipr.php>).

25 For any errata document for this specification, please refer to the Access Control TC web
26 page (<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/xacml>).

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1 Introduction (non-normative)

57

58

59 The OASIS eXtensible Access Control Markup Language [XACML] is a powerful, standard
60 language that specifies schemas for authorization policies and for authorization decision requests
61 and responses. It also specifies how to evaluate policies against requests to compute a response.
62 A brief overview of XACML is available in [XACMLIntro].

63 The non-normative XACML usage model assumes that a *Policy Enforcement Point* (PEP) is
64 responsible for protecting access to one or more resources. When a resource access is
65 attempted, the PEP sends a description of the attempted access to a *Policy Decision Point* (PDP)
66 in the form of an authorization decision request. The PDP evaluates this request against its
67 available policies and attributes and produces an authorization decision that is returned to the
68 PEP. The PEP is responsible for enforcing the decision.

69 In producing its description of the access request, the PEP may obtain attributes from on-line
70 *Attribute Authorities* (AA) or from *Attribute Repositories* into which AAs have stored attributes.
71 The PDP (or, more precisely, its Context Handler component) may augment the PEP's description
72 of the access request with additional attributes obtained from AAs or Attribute Repositories.

73 The PDP may obtain policies from on-line *Policy Administration Points* (PAP) or from *Policy*
74 *Repositories* into which PAPs have stored policies.

75 XACML itself defines the content of some of the messages necessary to implement this model,
76 but deliberately confines its scope to the language elements used directly by the PDP and does
77 not define protocols or transport mechanisms. Full implementation of the usage model depends
78 on use of other standards to specify assertions, protocols, and transport mechanisms. XACML
79 also does not specify how to implement a Policy Enforcement Point, Policy Administration Point,
80 Attribute Authority, Context Handler, or repository, but XACML can serve as a standard format for
81 exchanging information with these entities when combined with other standards.

82 One standard suitable for providing the assertion and protocol mechanisms needed by XACML is
83 the OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML), Version 2.0 [SAML]. SAML defines
84 schemas intended for use in requesting and responding with various types of security assertions.
85 The SAML schemas include information needed to identify and validate the contents of the
86 assertions, such as the identity of the assertion issuer, the validity period of the assertion, and the
87 digital signature of the assertion. The SAML specification describes how these elements are to be
88 used. In addition, SAML has associated specifications that define bindings to other standards.
89 These other standards provide transport mechanisms and specify how digital signatures should be
90 created and verified.

91 This profile defines how to use SAML 2.0 to protect, transport, and request XACML schema
92 instances and other information needed by an XACML implementation.

93 There are 6 types of queries and statements used in this profile:

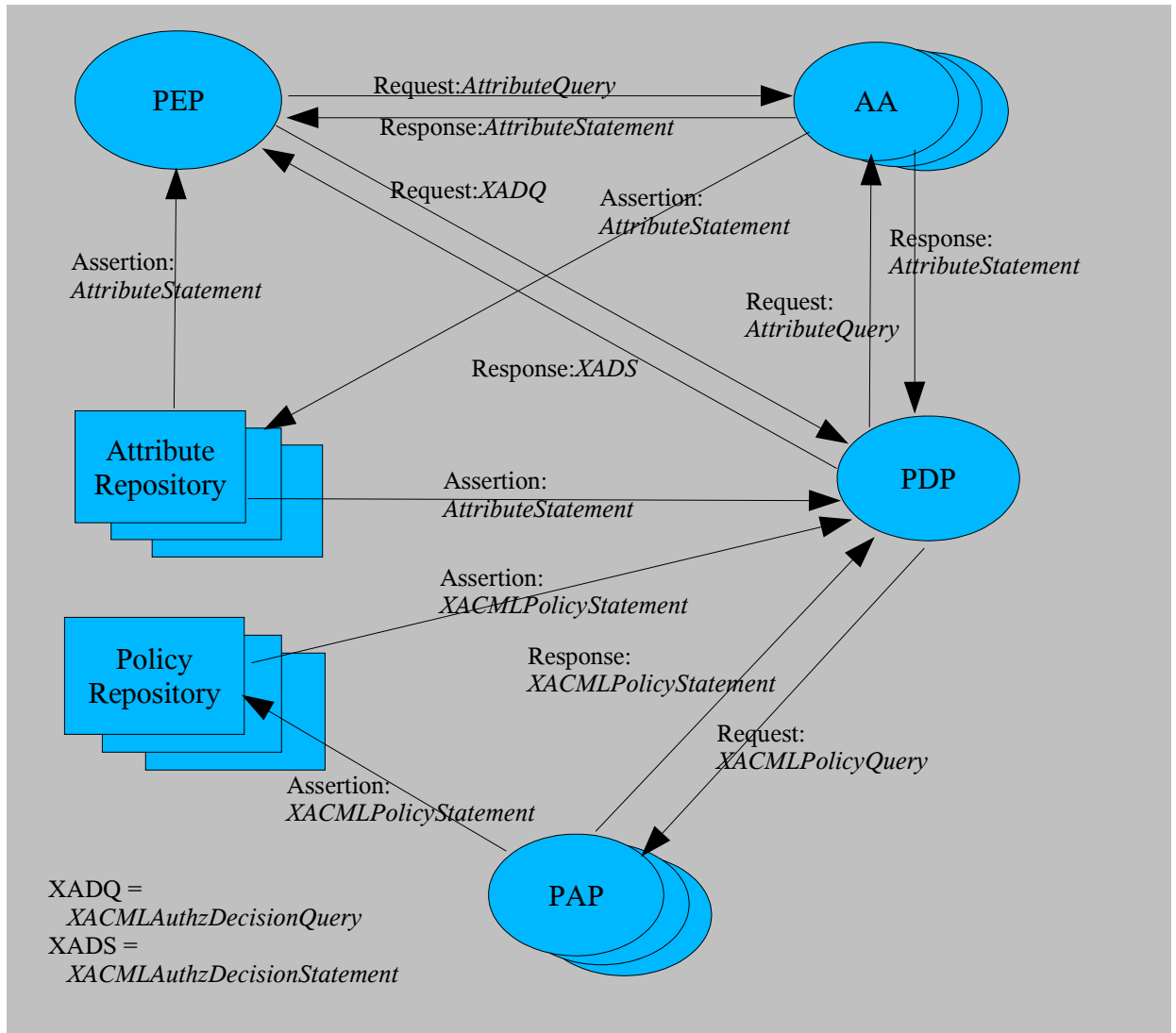
- 94 1. AttributeQuery – A standard SAML Request used for requesting one or more attributes from an
95 Attribute Authority.
- 96 2. AttributeStatement – A standard SAML Statement that contains one or more attributes. This
97 statement may be used in a SAML Response from an Attribute Authority, or it may be used in a
98 SAML Assertion as a format for storing attributes in an Attribute Repository.
- 99 3. XACMLPolicyQuery – A SAML Request extension, defined in this profile. It is used for
100 requesting one or more policies from a Policy Administration Point.
- 101 4. XACMLPolicyStatement – A SAML Statement extension, defined in this profile. It may be used
102 in a SAML Response from a Policy Administration Point, or it may be used in a SAML
103 Assertion as a format for storing policies in a Policy Repository.

104 5. XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery – A SAML Request extension, defined in this profile. It is used by
105 a PEP to request an authorization decision from an XACML PDP.

106 6. XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement – A SAML Statement extension, defined in this profile. It may
107 be used in a SAML Response from an XACML PDP. It might also be used in a SAML
108 Assertion that is used as a credential, but this is not part of the currently defined XACML use
109 model.

110 The following diagram illustrates the XACML use model and the messages that are used to
111 communicate between the various components. Not all components will be used in every
112 implementation.

1



114 This specification describes all these query and statement schema elements, and describes how
115 to use them. It also describes some other aspects of using SAML with XACML. This specification
116 requires no changes or extensions to XACML, but does define extensions to SAML.

117 1.1 Notation

118 In order to improve readability, the examples in this profile assume use of the following XML

119 Internal Entity declarations:

```
120 ^lt;!ENTITY saml "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
121 ^lt;!ENTITY samlp "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
122 ^lt;!ENTITY xacml "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:2.0:"
123 ^lt;!ENTITY xacml-context
124     "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:2.0:context:schema:os"
125 ^lt;!ENTITY xml "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#"
126 ^lt;!ENTITY subject-id
127     "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:subject:subject-id"
128 ^lt;!ENTITY resource "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:resource:"
129 ^lt;!ENTITY resource-id
130     "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:resource:resource-id"
131 ^lt;!ENTITY action-id "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:action:action-id"
132 ^lt;!ENTITY environment "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:environment:"
133 ^lt;!ENTITY current-dateTime
134     "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:environment:current-dateTime"
```

135 For example, “&xml;#string” is equivalent to
136 <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string>.

137 The namespace associated with the XACML schema [XACML-SAML] that extends the SAML
138 Assertion schema is

```
139     xacml-saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:2.0:saml:assertion:schema:os"
```

140 The namespace associated with the XACML schema [XACML-SAMLP] that extends the SAML
141 Protocol schema is

```
142     xacml-samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:2.0:saml:protocol:schema:os"
```

143 1.2 Terminology

144 The key words “MUST”, “MUST NOT”, “REQUIRED”, “SHALL”, “SHALL NOT”, “SHOULD”,
145 “SHOULD NOT”, “RECOMMENDED”, “MAY”, and “OPTIONAL” in this specification are to be
146 interpreted as described in IETF RFC 2119 [RFC2119]:

147 *“they MUST only be used where it is actually required for interoperation or to limit*
148 *behavior which has potential for causing harm (e.g., limiting retransmissions)”*

149 These keywords are thus capitalized when used to unambiguously specify requirements over
150 protocol and application features and behavior that affect the interoperability and security of
151 implementations. When these words are not capitalized, they are meant in their natural-language
152 sense.

153 **AA** – Attribute Authority. An entity that binds attributes to identities. Such a binding may be
154 expressed using a SAML Attribute Assertion with the Attribute Authority as the issuer.

155 **Attribute** - In this Profile, the term “Attribute”, when the initial letter is capitalized, may refer to
156 either an XACML Attribute or to a SAML Attribute. The term will always be preceded with the type
157 of Attribute intended.

158 • An XACML Attribute is a typed name/value pair, with other optional information, specified using
159 an XACML Request Context <xacml-context:Attribute> element. An XACML Attribute
160 is associated with an identity by the XACML Attribute's position within the XACML Request; for
161 example, an XACML Attribute contained within the <xacml-context:Resource> element is
162 an attribute of that resource.

163 • A SAML Attribute is a name/value pair, with other optional information, specified using a SAML
164 Assertion <saml:Attribute> element. A SAML Attribute is associated with a particular
165 subject by its inclusion in a <saml:SubjectStatement> element. The SAML subject may
166 correspond to an XACML subject, resource, action, or even environment.

167 **attribute** – In this Profile, the term “attribute”, when not capitalized, refers to a generic attribute or
168 characteristic unless it is preceded by the term “XML”. An “XML attribute” is a syntactic

169 component in XML that occurs inside the opening tag of an XML element.

170 **PAP** – Policy Administration Point. An entity that issues authorization policies. Such policies may
171 be expressed using a SAML Policy Assertion with the Policy Administration Point as the issuer.

172 **PDP** - Policy Decision Point. An entity that evaluates an access request against one or more
173 policies to produce an access decision.

174 **PEP** – Policy Enforcement Point. An entity that enforces access control for one or more
175 resources. When a resource access is attempted, a PEP sends an access request describing the
176 attempted access to a PDP. The PDP returns an access decision that the PEP then enforces.

177 **policy** – A set of rules indicating which subjects are permitted to access which resources using
178 which actions under which conditions. XACML has two different schema elements used for
179 policies: <Policy> and <PolicySet>. A <PolicySet> is a collection of other <Policy> and
180 <PolicySet> elements. A <Policy> contains actual access control rules.

181

2 Attributes (normative)

182 The SAML assertion schema defines an Attribute Assertion. The SAML protocol schema defines
183 an AttributeQuery used for requesting instances of Attribute Assertions, and a Response that
184 contains the requested instances. Systems using XACML MAY use instances of these SAML
185 elements transmit and store SAML Attributes. Systems using XACML MAY use the SAML
186 AttributeQuery protocol to request instances of SAML Attributes. In order to be used in an XACML
187 Request Context, the SAML Attribute SHALL be mapped to an XACML Attribute. This Section
188 describes that mapping.

2.1 Mapping a SAML Attribute Assertion to XACML Attributes

189 A SAML Attribute Assertion is a `<saml:Assertion>` instance that contains one or more
190 `<saml:AttributeStatement>` instances, each of which may contain one or more
191 `<saml:Attribute>` instances.
192

193 In order to be used in an XACML Request Context, each SAML Attribute in the SAML Attribute
194 Assertion SHALL comply with *XACML Attribute Profile* (Section 8.5), namespace
195 `urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:XACML`, in the *Profiles for the*
196 *OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language* [SAML-PROFILE].

197 An `<xacml-context:Attribute>` SHALL be constructed from the corresponding
198 `<saml:Attribute>` element in a SAML Attribute Assertion as follows.

- 199 • XACML `AttributeId` XML attribute

200 The fully-qualified value of the `<saml:Attribute>` `Name` XML attribute SHALL be used.

- 201 • XACML `DataType` XML attribute

202 The fully-qualified value of the `<saml:Attribute>` `DataType` XML attribute SHALL be
203 used. If the `<saml:Attribute>` `DataType` XML attribute is missing, the XACML
204 `DataType` XML attribute SHALL be `http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string`.

- 205 • XACML `Issuer` XML attribute

206 The string value of the `<saml:Issuer>` element from the SAML Attribute Assertion SHALL be
207 used.

- 208 • `<xacml-context:AttributeValue>`

209 The `<saml:AttributeValue>` value SHALL be used as the value of the `<xacml-`
210 `context:AttributeValue>` element.

211 Each `<saml:Attribute>` instance is mapped to a single `<xacml-context:Attribute>`
212 element. Not all `<saml:Attribute>` instances in a SAML Attribute Assertion need to be
213 mapped; the SAML Attribute instances to be mapped may be selected by a mechanism not
214 specified here. The `Issuer` of the `<saml:Assertion>` element is used as the `Issuer` for
215 each `<xacml-context:Attribute>` element that is created.

216 The `<xacml-context:Attribute>` created from the `<saml:Assertion>` SHALL be placed
217 into the `<xacml-context:Resource>`, `<xacml-context:Subject>`, `<xacml-`
218 `context:Action>`, or `<xacml-context:Environment>` element that corresponds to the
219 entity that is the `<saml:Subject>` in the SAML Attribute Assertion. For example, if the
220 SAML Attribute Assertion Subject contains a `<saml:NameIdentifier>` element, and the value
221 of that `NameIdentifier` matches the value of the `<xacml-context:Attribute>` having an
222 `AttributeId` of `&resource;resource-id`, then `<xacml-context:Attribute>` instances
223 created from `<saml:Attribute>` instances in that SAML Attribute Assertion SHALL be placed
224 into the `<xacml-context:Resource>` element. If the `<xacml-context:Attribute>` is
225 placed into an `<xacml-context:Subject>` element, then the XACML `SubjectCategory`
226 XML attribute SHALL also be consistent with the entity that is the Subject of the

227 <saml:Assertion>.

228 The entity performing the mapping SHALL ensure that the semantics defined by SAML for the
229 elements in the <saml:Assertion> have been adhered to. The mapping entity need not
230 perform these semantic checks itself, but it SHALL ensure that the checks have been done before
231 any <xacml:Attribute> created from the <saml:Assertion> is used by an XACML PDP.
232 These semantic checks include, but are not limited to, the following.

- 233 • Any NotBefore and NotOnOrAfter XML attributes in the <saml:Assertion> SHALL be
234 valid with respect to the <xacml:Request> in which the SAML-derived
235 <xacml:Attribute> is used. This means that the NotBefore and NotOnOrAfter XML
236 attribute values SHALL be consistent with the &environment;current-time,
237 &environment;current-date, and &environment:current-dateTime
238 <xacml:Attribute> values associated with the <xacml:Request>.
- 239 • The entity doing the mapping SHALL ensure that the semantics defined by SAML for any
240 <saml:AudienceRestrictionCondition> or <saml:DoNotCacheCondition>
241 elements have been adhered to.
- 242 • If a <ds:Signature> element occurs in the <saml:Assertion>, then the entity performing
243 the mapping SHALL ensure that the signature is valid and that the SAML <Issuer> element is
244 consistent with any <ds:X509IssuerName> value in the signature. The guidelines regarding
245 digital signatures in Section 5: *SAML and XML Signature Syntax and Processing* of the SAML
246 core specification [SAML] SHALL be adhered to.

247

3 Authorization Decisions (normative)

248 SAML 2.0 defines a rudimentary AuthzDecisionQuery in the SAML Protocol Schema and a
249 rudimentary AuthzDecisionStatement in the SAML Assertion Schema. A SAML
250 AuthzDecisionQuery is unable to convey all the information that an XACML PDP is capable of
251 accepting as part of its Request Context. Likewise, the SAML AuthzDecisionStatement is unable
252 to convey all the information contained in an XACML Response Context.

253 In order to allow a PEP to use the SAML Request and Response syntax with full support for the
254 XACML Request Context and Response Context syntax, this specification defines two SAML
255 extensions:

- 256 • `<xacml-samlp:XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>` is a SAML Query that extends the SAML
257 Protocol Schema. It allows a PEP to submit an XACML Request Context in a SAML Request,
258 along with other information.
- 259 • `<xacml-saml:XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement>` is a SAML Statement that extends the
260 SAML Assertion schema. It allows an XACML PDP to return an XACML Response Context in
261 the Response to an `<XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement>`, along with other information. It
262 also allows an XACML Response Context to be stored or transmitted in the form of a SAML
263 Assertion.

264 This Section defines these extensions. The extensions are contained in [XACML-SAML] and
265 [XACML-SAML P].

3.1 Element `<XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>`

267 The `<XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>` element MAY be used by a PEP to request an
268 authorization decision from an XACML PDP. It allows a SAML Request to convey an XACML
269 Request Context instance.

```
<xs:element name="XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery"
            type="XACMLAuthzDecisionQueryType"/>
<xs:complexType name="XACMLAuthzDecisionQueryType">
  <xs:complexContent>
    <xs:extension base="samlp:RequestAbstractType">
      <xs:sequence>
        <xs:element ref="xacml-context:Request"/>
      </xs:sequence>
      <xs:attribute name="InputContextOnly"
                    type="boolean"
                    use="optional"
                    default="false"/>
      <xs:attribute name="ReturnContext"
                    type="boolean"
                    use="optional"
                    default="false"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:complexContent>
</xs:complexType>
```

270 The `<XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>` element is of `XACMLAuthzDecisionQueryType` complex
271 type. This element is an alternative to the SAML-defined `<samlp:AuthzDecisionQuery>` that
272 allows a PEP to use the full capabilities of an XACML PDP.

273 The `<XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>` element contains the following XML attributes and
274 elements:

275 `InputContextOnly` [Default "false"]

276 This XML attribute governs the sources of information that the PDP is allowed to use in

277 making its authorization decision. If this XML attribute is “true”, then the authorization
278 decision SHALL be made solely on the basis of information contained in the
279 <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>; no external attributes MAY be used. If this XML
280 attribute is “false”, then the authorization decision MAY be made on the basis of external
281 attributes not contained in the <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>.

282 ReturnContext [Default “false”]

283 This XML attribute allows the PEP to request that an <xacml-context:Request>
284 element be included in the <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement> resulting from the
285 request. It also governs the contents of that <xacml-context:Request> element.

286 If this XML attribute is “true”, then the PDP SHALL include the <xacml-
287 context:Request> element in the <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement> element in
288 the <XACMLResponse>. This <xacml-context:Request> element SHALL include all
289 those attributes supplied by the PEP in the <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery> that were
290 used in making the authorization decision. The PDP MAY include additional attributes in
291 this <xacml-context:Request> element, such as external attributes obtained by the
292 PDP and used in making the authorization decision, or other attributes known by the PDP
293 that may be useful to the PEP in making subsequent <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>
294 requests.

295 If this XML attribute is “false”, then the PDP SHALL NOT include the <xacml-
296 context:Request> element in the <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement> element of
297 the <XACMLResponse> .

298 <xacml-context:Request> [Required]

299 An XACML Request Context.

300 3.2 Element <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement>

301 The <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement> MAY be used by an XACML PDP to return a SAML
302 Response containing an XACML Response Context to a PEP in response to an
303 <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>. It may also be used in a SAML Assertion as a format for
304 storage of an authorization decision in a repository.

```
<xs:element name="XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement"  
            type="xacml-saml:XACMLAuthzDecisionStatementType"/>  
<xs:complexType name="XACMLAuthzDecisionStatementType">  
  <xs:complexContent>  
    <xs:extension base="saml:StatementAbstractType">  
      <xs:sequence>  
        <xs:element ref="xacml-context:Response"/>  
        <xs:element ref="xacml-context:Request"  
                    MinOccurs="0"/>  
      </xs:sequence>  
    </xs:extension>  
  </xs:complexContent>  
</xs:complexType>
```

305 The <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement> element is of XACMLAuthzDecisionStatementType
306 complex type. This element is an alternative to the SAML-defined
307 <samlp:AuthzDecisionStatement> that allows a SAML Assertion to contain the full content
308 of the response from an XACML PDP.

309 The <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement> element contains the following elements:

310 <xacml-context:Response> [Required]

311 The XACML Response Context created by the XACML PDP in response to the
312 <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>.

313 <xacml-context:Request> [Optional]

314 An <xacml-context:Request> containing XACML Attributes returned by the XACML
315 PDP in response to the <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>. This element SHALL be
316 included if the ReturnResponse XML attribute in the <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>
317 is "true". This element SHALL NOT be included if the ReturnResponse XML attribute in
318 the <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery> is "false".

319 See the description of the ReturnContext XML attribute in Section 3.1: *Element*
320 <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery> for a description of the XACML <Attribute> values
321 that SHALL be returned in this element.

322

4 Policies (normative)

323 XACML defines two policy schema elements: `<Policy>` and `<PolicySet>`. SAML does not
324 define any Protocol or Assertion schemas for policies. This Section defines new SAML
325 extensions for `<XACMLPolicyQuery>` and `<XACMLPolicyStatement>` elements. Instances of
326 these new elements can be used to request, transmit, and store XACML `<Policy>` and
327 `<PolicySet>` instances. The new extensions are contained in [XACML-SAML] and [XACML-
328 SAML].

329

4.1 Element `<XACMLPolicyQuery>`

330 The `<XACMLPolicyQuery>` element is used by a PDP to request one or more XACML Policy or
331 `<PolicySet>` instances from an on-line Policy Administration Point as part of a SAML Request.

```
<xs:element name="XACMLPolicyQuery"
            type="XACMLPolicyQueryType"/>
<xs:complexType name="XACMLPolicyQueryType">
  <complexContent>
    <xs:extension base="samlp:RequestAbstractType">
      <xs:choice minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded">
        <xs:element ref="xacml-context:Request"/>
        <xs:element ref="xacml:Target"/>
        <xs:element ref="xacml:PolicySetIdReference"/>
        <xs:element ref="xacml:PolicyIdReference"/>
      </xs:choice>
    </xs:extension>
  </complexContent>
</xs:complexType>
```

332 The `<XACMLPolicyQuery>` element is of `XACMLPolicyQueryType` complex type.

333 The `<XACMLPolicyQuery>` element contains one or more of the following elements:

334 `<xacml-context:Request>` [Any Number]

335 Supplies an XACML Request Context. All XACML Policy and `<PolicySet>` instances
336 applicable to this Request SHALL be returned. The concept of "applicability" in the
337 XACML context is defined in the XACML 2.0 Specification [XACML].

338 `<xacml:Target>` [Any Number]

339 Supplies an XACML `<Target>` element. All XACML Policy and `<PolicySet>` instances
340 applicable to this `<Target>` SHALL be returned.

341 `<xacml:PolicySetIdReference>` [Any Number]

342 Identifies an XACML `<PolicySet>` to be returned.

343 `<xacml:PolicyIdReference>` [Any Number]

344 Identifies an XACML `<Policy>` to be returned.

345

4.2 Element `<XACMLPolicyStatement>`

346 The `<XACMLPolicyStatement>` is used by a Policy Administration Point to return one or more
347 XACML `<Policy>` or `<PolicySet>` instances in a SAML Response to an
348 `<XACMLPolicyQuery>` SAML Request. The `<XACMLPolicyStatement>` may also be used in
349 a SAML Assertion as a format for storing the `<XACMLPolicyStatement>` in a repository.

```

<xs:element name="XACMLPolicyStatement"
  type="xacml-saml:XACMLPolicyStatementType"/>
<xs:complexType name="XACMLPolicyStatementType">
  <xs:complexContent>
    <xs:extension base="saml:StatementAbstractType">
      <xs:choice minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded">
        <xs:element ref="xacml:Policy"/>
        <xs:element ref="xacmlPolicySet"/>
      </xs:choice>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:complexContent>
</xs:complexType>

```

350 The <XACMLPolicyStatement> element is of XACMLPolicyStatementType complex type.

351 The <XACMLPolicyStatement> element contains the following elements. If the
 352 <XACMLPolicyStatement> is issued in response to an <XACMLPolicyQuery>, and there are
 353 no <xacml:Policy> or <xacml:PolicySet> instances that meet the specifications of the
 354 associated <XACMLPolicyQuery>, then there SHALL be no elements in the
 355 <XACMLPolicyStatement>.

356 <xacml:Policy> [Any Number]

357 An <xacml:Policy> instance that meets the specifications of the associated
 358 <XACMLPolicyQuery>, if any.

359 <xacml:PolicySet> [Any Number]

360 An <xacml:PolicySet> instance that meets the specifications of the associated
 361 <XACMLPolicyQuery>, if any.

362 5 Element <saml:Assertion> (normative)

363 An <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement>, <XACMLPolicyStatement>, or SAML standard
364 <saml:AttributeStatement> SHALL be encapsulated in a <saml:Assertion>, which MAY
365 be signed.

366 Most components of a <saml:Assertion> are fully specified in the SAML 2.0 specification
367 [SAML]. The following elements and XML attributes are further specified here for use with the
368 SAML statement types defined and used in this Profile.

369 Except as specified here, this Profile imposes no requirements or restrictions on information in the
370 <saml:Assertion> element.

371 5.1 Element <saml:Issuer>

372 The <saml:Issuer> element is a required element for holding information about “the SAML
373 authority that is making the claim(s) in the assertion” [SAML].

374 In order to support 3rd party digital signatures, this Profile does NOT require that the identity
375 provided in the <saml:Issuer> element be consistent with the identity of the signer. It is up to
376 the relying party to have an appropriate trust relationship with the authority that signs the
377 <saml:Assertion>.

378 When a <saml:AttributeAssertion> is used to construct an XACML Attribute, the string
379 value of the <saml:Issuer> element will be used as the value of the XACML Issuer XML
380 attribute, so the SAML value SHOULD be specified with this in mind. See *Section 2.1: Mapping a
381 SAML Attribute Assertion to XACML Attributes* for more information.

382 5.2 Element <ds:Signature>

383 The <ds:Signature> element is an optional element for holding “An XML Signature that
384 authenticates the assertion, as described in Section 5.”

385 A <ds:Signature> element MAY be used in an assertion used with an XACML Statement. In
386 order to support 3rd party digital signatures, this Profile does NOT require that the identity provided
387 in the <saml:Issuer> element be consistent with the identity of the signer. It is up to the relying
388 party to have an appropriate trust relationship with the authority that signs the
389 <saml:Assertion>.

390 A relying party SHOULD verify any signature included in the assertion and SHOULD NOT use
391 information derived from the assertion unless the signature is verified successfully.

392 5.3 Element <saml:Subject>

393 The <saml:Subject> element is an optional element used for holding “The subject of the
394 statement(s) in the assertion” [SAML].

395 The <saml:Subject> element SHALL NOT be included in an assertion that contains an
396 <XACMLAuthzDecision> or <XACMLPolicy>.

397 In a <saml:AttributeAssertion> that is to be mapped to an XACML Attribute, the
398 <saml:Subject> element SHALL contain the identity of the entity to which the attribute and its
399 value are bound. For an XACML <Subject> Attribute, this identity SHOULD be consistent with
400 the value of any XACML &subject-id; Attribute that occurs in the same <Subject> element.
401 For an XACML <Resource> Attribute, this identity SHOULD be consistent with the value of any
402 XACML &resource-id; Attribute that occurs in the same <Resource> element. For an
403 XACML <Action> Attribute, this identity SHOULD be consistent with the value of any XACML
404 &action-id; Attribute that occurs in the same <Action> element. For an XACML
405 <Environment> Attribute, this identity SHOULD be consistent with the value of any XACML

406 Attribute that occurs in the same `<Environment>` element and provides an environment identity.

407 **5.4 Element `<saml:Conditions>`**

408 The `<saml:Conditions>` element is an optional element that is used for “conditions that MUST
409 be taken into account in assessing the validity of and/or using the assertion” [SAML].

410 The `<saml:Conditions>` element SHOULD contain `NotBefore` and `NotOnOrAfter` XML
411 attributes to specify the limits on the validity of the assertion. If these XML attributes are present,
412 the relying party SHOULD ensure that information derived from the assertion is used by a PDP
413 for evaluating policies only when the value of the request context `¤t-dateTime;`
414 resource attribute is contained within the assertion's specified validity period.

415 **6 Element <samlp:RequestAbstractType>**
416 **(normative)**

417 An <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery> or <XACMLPolicyQuery> SHALL be encapsulated in a
418 <samlp:RequestAbstractType> element, which MAY be signed.

419 Most components of a <samlp:RequestAbstractType> are fully specified in the SAML 2.0
420 specification [SAML]. The following elements and XML attributes are further specified here for use
421 with the SAML query types defined and used in this Profile. Except as specified here, this Profile
422 imposes no requirements or restrictions on information in the <samlp:RequestAbstractType>
423 element.

424 **6.1 Element <saml:Issuer>**

425 See Section 5.1: Element <saml:Issuer>.

426 **6.2 Element <ds:Signature>**

427 See Section 5.2: Element <ds:Signature>.

428 7 Element <samlp:Response> (normative)

429 An <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement> or <XACMLPolicyStatement> SHALL be
430 encapsulated in a <samlp:Response> element, which MAY be signed.

431 Most components of a <samlp:Response> are fully specified in the SAML 2.0 specification
432 [SAML]. The following elements and XML attributes are further specified here for use with the
433 SAML statement types defined and used in this Profile. Except as specified here, this Profile
434 imposes no requirements or restrictions on information in the <samlp:Response> element.

435 7.1 Element <samlp:Issuer>

436 See Section 5.1: Element <saml:Issuer>.

437 7.2 Element <ds:Signature>

438 See Section 5.2: Element <ds:Signature>.

439 7.3 Element <samlp:StatusCode>

440 The <samlp:StatusCode> element is a component of the <samlp:Status> element in the
441 <samlp:Response>.

442 7.3.1 Response to <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>

443 In the response to an <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery> request, the <samlp:StatusCode>
444 Value XML attribute SHALL depend on the <xacml:StatusCode> element of the authorization
445 decision <xacml:Status> element as follows:

446 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success

447 This value for the <samlp:StatusCode> Value XML attribute SHALL be used if and
448 only if the <xacml:StatusCode> value is
449 urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:status:ok.

450 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Requester

451 This value for the <samlp:StatusCode> Value XML attribute SHALL be used when the
452 <xacml:StatusCode> value is
453 urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:status:missing-attribute or the when the
454 <xacml:StatusCode> value is
455 urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:status:syntax-error due to a syntax error in
456 the <xacml:Request>.

457 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Responder

458 This value for the <samlp:StatusCode> Value XML attribute SHALL be used when the
459 <xacml:StatusCode> value is
460 urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:status:syntax-error due to a syntax error in
461 an <xacml:Policy> or <xacml:PolicySet>. Note that not all syntax errors in
462 policies will be detected in conjunction with the processing of a particular query, so not all
463 policy syntax errors will be reported this way.

464 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:VersionMismatch

465 This value for the <samlp:StatusCode> Value XML attribute SHALL be used only when
466 the SAML interface at the PDP does not support the version of the SAML request
467 message used in the query.

468 **7.3.2 Response to <XACMLPolicyQuery>**

469 In the response to an <XACMLPolicyQuery> request, the <samlp:StatusCode> Value XML
470 attribute SHALL be as specified in the SAML specification.

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8.1 Normative References

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531

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