



Research and Academic Federation of Identities for Kenyan Institutions (RAFIKI)

Federation Operator Practice: Metadata Registration Practice Statement

Authors	Kenya Education Network (KENET)
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1 1. Definitions and Terminology

2
3 The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD",
4 "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "**MAY**", and "OPTIONAL" in this
5 document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [RFC2119].
6 The following definitions are used in this document:
7
8

Federation	Identity Federation. An association of organisations that come together to securely exchange information as appropriate about their users and resources to enable collaborations and transactions.
Federation Member	An organisation that has joined the Federation by agreeing to be bound by the Federation Policy in writing.
Federation Operator	Organisation providing the infrastructure for Authentication and Authorisation to Federation Members.
Federation Policy	A document describing the obligations, rights and expectations of the federation members and the Federation Operator
Entity	A discrete component that a member wishes to register and describe in metadata. This is typically an Identity Provider or Service Provider.
Registry	System used by the Federation Operator to register entity metadata. This may be via a self-service tool or via other manual processes.
Registered Representatives	Individuals authorized to act on behalf of the member. These may take on different roles with different rights attached to them.
Research and Academic Federation of Identities for Kenian Institutions (RAFIKI)	A federation established to serve the Kenyan research and education community and operated by the Kenyan NREN -Kenva Education Network.

9
10
11 2.Introduction and Applicability

12 This document describes the metadata registration practices of the Research and Academic
13 Federation of Identities for Kenyan Institutions (RAFIKI) with effect from the publication date
14 indicated on the cover sheet. All new entity registrations performed on or after that date SHALL
15 be processed as described here until the document is superseded.
16

17 This document SHALL be published on the Federation website at: <https://rafiki.ke>. Updates to the
18 documentation SHALL be accurately reflected in entity metadata.
19

20 An entity that does not include a reference to a registration policy MUST be assumed to
21 have been registered under an historic, undocumented registration practice regime. Requests to
22 re-evaluate a given entity against a current MAPS MAY be made to the Federation helpdesk.
23

24 3.Member Eligibility and Ownership

25
26 Members of the Federation are eligible to make use of the Federation Operator's registry to register
27 entities. Registration requests from other sources SHALL NOT be accepted.

28
29 The procedure for becoming a member of the Federation as an Identity Provider (IdP) is
30 documented at https://rafiki.ke/how_to_join_as_an_idp.

31
32 The procedure for becoming a member of the Federation as a Service Provider (SP) is
33 documented at https://rafiki.ke/how_to_join_as_a_sp.

34
35 The member registration process verifies the legal capacity of the prospective member and
36 requires that all members enter into a contractual relationship with the Federation Operator
37 by agreeing to the Federation policy. The Federation Operator makes checks based on the
38 legalname provided to confirm that the prospective member is a member of Kenya Education
39 Network (KENET).

40
41 The membership process also identifies and verifies Registered Representatives, who
42 are permitted to act on behalf of the prospective member organization in dealings with the
43 Federation Operator. Verification is achieved by writing a letter to the organization's
44 management seeking to confirm if the nominated representative is an employee of the
45 organization.

46
47 The process also establishes a canonical name for the Federation member. The
48 canonicalname of a member MAY change during the membership period, for example as a
49 result of corporate name changes or mergers. The member's canonical name is disclosed in
50 the entity's

51 <md:OrganizationName> element [SAML-Metadata-OS]

52 53 4. Metadata Format

54 Metadata for all entities registered by RAFIKI SHALL make use of the [SAML- Metadata-RPI-
55 V1.0] metadata extension to indicate that RAFIKI is the registrar for the entity and to detail the
56 version of the MAPS statement that applies to the entity. The following is a non-
57 normative example:

```
58 <mdrpi:Registrationinfo  
59 registrationAuthority="http://Federation.org"  
60 registrationInstant="2016-11-29T13:39:41Z">  
61 <mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy xml:lang="en">  
62 http://Federation.org/doc/MRPS20121110</mdrpi:Re  
63 </mdrpi:Registrationinfo>
```

64 65 66 5. Entity Eligibility and Validation

67 68 5.1 Entity Registration

69 The Federation Operator SHALL verify the member's right to use particular domain names in
70 relation to entityID attributes.

71
72 The Federation Operator SHALL use the following criteria to determine a member's right to use
73 a domain name:

- 74 • A member's canonical name matches registrant information shown in DNS.

75

- 76 • A member MAY be granted the right to make use of a specific domain name through a
77 permission letter from the domain owner on a per- entity basis. Permission SHALL NOT be
78 regarded as including permission for the use of sub-domains.

79

80 **5.2 EntityID Format**

81

82 Values of the entityID attribute registered MUST be an absolute URI using the http, https or urn
83 schemes.

84

85 https-scheme URIs are RECOMMENDED to all members.

86

87 http-scheme and https-scheme URIs used for entityID values MUST contain a host part whose
88 value is a DNS domain.

89

90 **5.3 Entity Validation**

91

92 The Federation Operator SHALL carry out entity validations checks upon entity registration. These
93 checks include:

94

- 95 • Ensuring all required information is present in the metadata
- 96 • Ensuring metadata is correctly formatted
- 97 • Ensuring protocol endpoints are properly protected with TLS / SSL certificates.

98

99 **6.Entity Management**

100 Once a member has joined the Federation any number of entities MAY be added, modified
101 or removed by the organization.

102

103 **6.1 Entity Change Requests**

104

105 Any request for entity addition, change or removal from Federation members needs
106 to be communicated from or confirmed by their respective Registered Representatives through
107 email.

108

109 **6.2 Unsolicited Entity Changes**

110

111 The Federation Operator may amend or modify the Federation metadata at any time in order
112 to:

- 113 • Ensure the security and integrity of the metadata
- 114 • Comply with interFederation agreements
- 115 • Improve interoperability
- 116 • Add value to the metadata.

117 Changes will be communicated to Registered Representatives for the entity.

118

119

120

121

122

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127

7.References

[RFC2119]	Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119 , March 1997.
[SAML-Metadata-RPI-V1.0]	SAML V2.0 Metadata Extensions for Registration and Publication Information Version 1.0. 03 April 2012. OASIS Committee Specification 01. http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/Post2.0/saml-metadata-rpi/v1.0/cs01/saml-metadata-rpi-v1.0-cs01.html .
[SAML-Metadata-OS]	OASIS Metadata for the OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) V2.0: http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-metadata-2.0-os.pdf .

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