



WRITING A POSITION PAPER

The position paper is a document of one or two sides which presents a delegate's country/organisation's position regarding the issues debated in the committee. Since the position paper is made available to all delegates, It serves as a reference for other delegates on the position of the party. It also serves as a guide to help the delegate maintain his party's views during the debate. Finally, by reading the position paper, chairs check that the delegate has fully understood the position of his party.

A position paper is mandatory for every issue debated in the committee. Here are certain rules that will allow you to write the paper:

- 1) Your paper must be between one and two pages long with single line spacing , "Georgia" font , size 11.
- 2) Always identify your paper properly. In the top left corner, write;
 - a) the name of the country/organisation you are representing
 - b) the name of your committee
 - c) the issue you are treating
- 3) The first paragraph of your preparation document should present the issue in a few words
- 4) The body of your paper must have the following elements:
 - a) A general sentence on your country's position.
 - b) A development on this position. (You may quote an international treaty, agreements that your country has previously supported or any other useful international document).
 - c) A development on the solutions your party has already put in place for this issue
 - d) A development on your suggested solutions.
- 5) It is unnecessary to have a global conclusion.
- 6) Remember that you must, under no circumstance, use the first person in your paper. You should use expressions such as "Japan" or "our country" instead, since the preparation document is considered as a declaration from your country and not of your own opinion.

You will find an example of a position paper below to guide you.

Remember that your chairs can easily be contacted for any further questions or information!

Committee: Forum on Trade

Issue: Fighting the Sale of Counterfeit Goods

Author: Finland

A counterfeit good is a product that involves an unlicensed incorporation of a trademark belonging to another party or a product that replicates the appearance of another product which is protected by copyright design. According to the International Trade Association, \$460 billion worth of counterfeit goods were sold last year worldwide. This industry continues to be one of the largest underground businesses, it varies from major manufacturers in China to criminal organizations that are producing and marketing such products in order to fund their activities.

The effect of the sale of such products has a huge impact on businesses and people. It is estimated that 100,000 jobs are lost in Europe annually due to the sale of such goods. But their negative impact doesn't end there. Since most counterfeit businesses are part of an underground economy, they affect governments and people by not contributing to the country's GDP, which consequently results in the money being levied by society in some other way. As well as that, counterfeit products such as medicines, cosmetics, vehicle parts and electrical devices also can pose great risks to health and public safety. With the internet availability, the counterfeit market has become even more widespread through the use of spam bots, online auction sites and ads marketing their products to consumers all around the world.

The effect of counterfeits on Finland has been consistent with the effect they have on Europe. According to Finnish Customs Statistics, 93,000 counterfeit products were seized in 2016 by Finnish authorities, with China being the main exporter of these products. This large amount of counterfeits is largely due to the fact that there is no border control between the national border of members of the EU. As a result, counterfeit goods pass through ports with low border protection and then spread across Europe. Finland's legal system protects IP rights through regulations based on the EU regulation (EU) 608/2013 which introduces a common rule to the prohibition of entry, release of free circulation, export and exit of counterfeits and deal with illegal marketing of such goods.

Finland is also a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and has implemented many acts such as the Trademark and Copyright Act in accordance with it. It has also been part of the Global Anti-Counterfeiting Network which aims to "exchange and share best practices and information, and to participate in appropriate joint activities to solve international IPR enforcement challenges" since 1998, with its operating Finnish branch being the Finnish Anti-Counterfeiting Group which trains policymakers, judges, and prosecutors in the field of IPR crime. The development of this issue in Finland has remained rather static for the most part, however, in 2016 Finland was ranked first out of 128 countries in the Property Rights Alliance 2016 International Property Rights Index.

Solving the issue of counterfeit goods is necessary to achieving Goals 8, 9 and 17 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, given the various aspects of this issue, they need to be targeted separately to ensure intensive targeting as well as mutually with other aspects that they overlap with it. This intensive targeting can be done when businesses collaborate with corporations/agencies such as the International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition which is dedicated to solving IP related issues on online and in land levels. Another useful way to target the issue is for nations to create annual reports discussing the development and progress in solving the issue and targeting the aspects that need work in order to ensure that

the minimal amount of counterfeits are imported. Lastly, leveraging technology to monitor and analyze online channels such as online auctions sites as well as the use of online intelligence to track down infringer so that offline defensive forces can be more efficient in their search.