



**anti
counterfeit
authority**
Upholding Authenticity

CALL FOR PAPERS

3rd International Symposium on Intellectual Property Protection and Enforcement (ISIPPE-3)

Theme: "Stepping Up the Fight Against Counterfeiting to Safeguard Public Health and Safety"

DATE: 18th –19th November 2026 | Kenya

The Anti-Counterfeit Authority (ACA) invites researchers, policymakers, academics, Intellectual Property practitioners, regulators, law-enforcement agencies, prosecutors, judges, customs authorities, industry representatives, technology experts and other stakeholders to submit papers for the 3rd International Symposium on Intellectual Property Protection and Enforcement.

The Symposium will examine how legal, regulatory, technological, financial and enforcement interventions can be combined to disrupt the manufacture, distribution and sale of counterfeit products and protect consumers, legitimate businesses and critical supply chains.

The Symposium will focus particularly on five high-risk sectors, namely:

- a) Agriculture and agricultural inputs;
- b) Automotive spare parts;
- c) Pharmaceuticals and medical equipment;
- d) Alcohol and Tobacco and
- e) Energy, electricals and electronics.

Key areas for papers

Papers are invited on the following broad themes:

1. Legal and regulatory frameworks

- Adequacy and effectiveness of national, regional and global IP and anti-counterfeiting laws;
- Criminal, civil and administrative remedies;
- Regulatory fragmentation and institutional mandates;
- Evidence, prosecution and judicial enforcement;
- Cross-border enforcement and regional cooperation/ Territoriality questions;
- Online counterfeiting and intermediary liability;

- Public procurement and counterfeit products;
- Product safety, consumer protection and public health;
- Harmonisation of laws within the EAC, AfCFTA and other regional frameworks.

2. Supply-chain authentication and traceability

- Securing legitimate supply chains from manufacture to consumer;
- Track-and-trace and product authentication systems;
- Digital identification and authentication technologies;
- Customs and border-control mechanisms;
- Market surveillance and inspection;
- E-commerce and illicit digital supply chains;
- Consumer verification and reporting mechanisms.

3. Financial investigations and asset tracing

- Following the money behind counterfeit trade;
- Financial intelligence and illicit financial flows;
- Beneficial ownership investigations;
- Asset tracing, seizure and forfeiture;
- Proceeds-of-crime legislation;
- Financial-sector cooperation;
- Economic incentives driving counterfeit production and distribution.

4. Enforcement and investigation

- Intelligence-led and risk-based enforcement;
- Investigation and prosecution of organised counterfeit networks;
- Forensic investigation and evidence management;
- Inter-agency and public-private cooperation;
- Customs and border enforcement;
- International cooperation and information sharing;
- Effective sanctions and deterrence;
- Disposal of seized counterfeit goods.

5. Technology and innovation

- Artificial intelligence and data analytics;

- Digital forensics and online enforcement;
- Blockchain and distributed-ledger applications;
- Machine-readable authentication and track-and-trace systems;
- Technology for customs and market surveillance;
- Emerging technologies used by counterfeiters and enforcement agencies.

6. Sector-specific risks

Papers should, where possible, demonstrate how these issues apply to agriculture, automotive spare parts, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment, Alcohol and Tobacco or energy/electricals/electronics, particularly where counterfeiting presents direct risks to human health, consumer safety, environmental safety or critical infrastructure.

Submission requirements

Authors are invited to submit an abstract of 300 words, clearly indicating the proposed title; author(s) and institutional affiliation; the problem or research question; methodology or evidence base; principal findings or argument; and, relevance to the Symposium theme.

Selected authors will be invited to submit a full paper and present their findings during the Symposium.

Preference will be given to papers that move beyond describing the problem and provide evidence-based legal, regulatory, enforcement, financial, technological or policy solutions.

Proposed submission categories

The Symposium welcomes original research papers; Comparative legal and policy studies; Empirical studies and sector research; Case studies and enforcement experiences; Regulatory and policy analyses; Technology demonstrations and innovation papers; and Practitioner perspectives based on documented enforcement experience. Accepted papers will be published in the Discussion Paper Series published by the Authority.

Submission Guidelines and Important timelines

1. Abstracts should be written in clear and concise English language;
2. Abstracts should have a maximum of 300 words; must have a clear and concise title, a brief introduction (purpose), methodology, results and conclusion;
3. Authors can submit case reviews, cases studies, emerging best practices, innovations and new knowledge;
4. Abstracts should be aligned with the symposium theme and sub-themes;
5. Authors must indicate the respective sub-theme or sub-themes;
6. Abstracts should include the name(s) of the author(s), affiliations, and contact address;
7. The abstracts shall be submitted to the following email: isippe@aca.go.ke. In Case you need any clarification please contact Mr Henry Omusundi Maina,OGW on email: hmaina@aca.go.ke

8. A full paper shall be between 4000-8000 words. For details about the full paper format, [click here](#). Authors of approved abstracts will be invited to attend the symposium and make oral presentations in plenary or sub-theme breakaway sessions.

Indicative call for papers timeline

ACTIVITY	PROPOSED DATE
Call for papers	25 th sept 2026
Abstract submission deadline	9 th October 2026
Notification of Acceptance	14 th October 2026
Full paper/Presentation Submission	10 th November 2026
Symposium	18-19 th November 2026
Submission of Final Reviewed Paper	18 th Jan 2027