

Trade Marks (International Treaties and Enforcement) Amendment Bill

The Trade Marks (International Treaties and Enforcement) Amendment Bill is the legislative vehicle being used to facilitate the government's decisions to:

- join the Nice Agreement, the Singapore Treaty and the Madrid Protocol;
- enhance the enforcement of the criminal offence provisions in the Trade Marks and Copyright Acts; and
- improve Customs' administration of the border protection measures in the Trade Marks and Copyright Acts against the importation of goods bearing an infringing sign and pirated copies of copyright protected works; and
- address a number of technical issues that have arisen since the operation of the Trade Marks Act came into force in August 2003.

The Bill was introduced into Parliament on 8 September 2008. The text of the Bill is available from the [New Zealand legislation website](#).

The Minister of Commerce, Hon Simon Power, announced in a media statement released on 8 April 2008 that the Bill had passed its first reading in Parliament and had been referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Select Committee for consideration. The Minister's media statement is available from the [beehive website](#).

The Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee called for public submissions on the Bill. The deadline for the Select Committee to receive submissions was Friday 15 May 2009. Information about making a submission is available from the [Parliament website](#).

On 13 September 2009 the Bill was reported back to Parliament by the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee. A copy of their report is available from the [Parliament website](#).