Intellectual property, innovation and public health: an overview of the issues

WIPO Life Sciences Symposium:
IP and public health
September 2007
WIPO as a UN specialized agency...

... responsible “for promoting creative intellectual activity and for facilitating the transfer of technology related to industrial property to the developing countries in order to accelerate economic, social and cultural development, subject to the competence and responsibilities of the United Nations and its organs” ...
current life sciences program

- “provide objective and reliable information concerning the actual functioning of IP systems, and the range of options available, so that policymakers have a richer basis from which to address current policy issues.”

- “encourage objective analysis and empirical information, to further support debate and informed policy choices on IP-related questions arising in the area of public policies”

- Consultative workshops “held for a wide range of stakeholders, including the civil society and NGOs, to provide an opportunity for exchange of information in making use of the IP system in public policies, including in life sciences.”

☞ 2006-7 WIPO Program & Budget, subprogram 5.1
a tentative outline

- Setting out general considerations on patents as an instrument of public policy relating to health (‘Patents as an instrument of public policy’)

- Considering how current issues on IP and public health can be classified on various dimensions (‘Mapping the policy landscape’)

- Surveying particular current issues on the international agenda (‘Overview of current issues’)

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illuminating the landscape

- mapping patent activity
- mapping the issues
health