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invigorate the process of protecting intellectual property rights and fighting piracy, during the opening ceremony of a meeting between members of the board and the general assembly of Arab patents experts in Beirut on Saturday. "Lebanon is on the verge of becoming a full-fledged member of the World Trade Organization, and we need to seriously enforce intellectual property right laws and prevent piracy, and those are high items on my agenda," Hamade said. He said patents are essential to enable emerging markets to narrow the gap between them and highly industrial and technologi-'cally advanced nations.