**LYCEE DEPARTEMENTAL DE DONSIN ANNEE SCOLAIRE 2013/2014**

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 **GLOBALIZATION: hurting poor nations**

 Globalization is a buzzword that has gained importance all over the world. A significant feature of the goal economy is the integration of emerging economies in the world markets; expansion of economic activities across states borders and international movement of ideas, information, legal systems, organization, people, and culture, among others.

Globalization not only broadens the gap between the rich and poor, but also creates distortions in the global in the global economy. The benefits of globalization are often exaggerated. On the contrary, compared to the immediate post-war period, the average rate of growth has steadily slowed during the age of globalization, from 1.3 percent in the 1980s to 1.0 percent in the 1990s. While the rich countries grew on average by almost 2 percent per capita annually from 1980 to 2002, the world’s poorest 40 countries had a combined growth rate of zero. For large parts of Africa, the income level today is less 1- dollar-per-day.

The deepening of the poverty and equality has implications for the social and political stability. It is in this context that the plights and the hopes of developing countries have to be understood in the Doha Round of trade talks. Having commenced in 2001, the Doha Round was supposed to be about the trade-led and trade-facilitated development of the world’s poor countries. After five years of negotiations, the talks collapsed because large differences among the EU, the U.S., and developing countries led by India, Brazil and China. The rich countries want access to poor countries’ resources, markets, and labor forces at a lowest possible price but refuse to open theirs.

Elimination of production and export subsidies by rich nations, arid the opening of markets, while necessary, are not sufficient for developing countries to trade their way out of the underdevelopment. They also need to institute market-friendly incentives and regulatory regimes; investment in training, good infrastructure and research. Africans must take a more enlightened view of liberalizing trade, services, and the labour intensive manufacturing in which African countries are competitive. Trade is not only a means of prosperity, but also a means of peace-building. We need to device an enlightened approach in negotiations over intellectual rights, life saving drugs, and transfer of technology toward combating poverty.

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**Vocabulary**

*To broaden the gap*: élargir le fosse

*To collapse:* to fail (in the text)

*Incentive:* something that motivates