# WARNING! DEPORTATION HEARINGS IN HALLE/SAALE WITH DELEGATION FROM AFRICAN OR ALSO OTHER COUNTRIES

Dear brothers and sisters,

More often, "official delegations" from African countries (for ex. Mali, Niger, Benin) or other countries (for ex. Afghanistan) are coming to "Hotel Maritim" refugee camp in Halle/Saale to identify refugees without passport. Their aim is giving out travel documents ("laissez-passer") to deport them to the respective countries without having a passport.

Such deportations are possible due to respective cooperations with Germany/ Europe and other countries.

Please inform your friends who probably could also be affected!

#### Warning:

This deportation hearing is NOT the official hearing for your asylum application (in Halberstadt)! The deportation hearing is organized by Ausländerbehörde. The hearing for your official asylum application is organized by the BAMF (Office for Foreign Affairs, Halberstadt).

You can only have a deportation hearing when your asylum application already has been rejected by BAMF. This means, that you must have a "Duldung" or no papers after rejection of your case.

Attending a hearing with this delegation is only for your own deportation! If you sign any document proving your identity or your country of origin, this paper can be used to deport you without any other evidence or documents.

Police might pick people at their home addresses to bring them to the hearing by force!

### What happens in the hearing?

During the hearing, you will be questioned by the counties' representatives in order to confirm your country of origin based on your language, accents or specific words you use. Besides this, officials can also arbitrarily "identify" someone to be citizen of a country based on general appearance, the shape of his/her face, traditional scars etc. although this person is from another country! It has been reported that refugees from other (African) countries have been invited to hearings with the officials to deport them to the respective country as well. After the hearing, you will be able to return to your flat/ camp. It is possible that after a certain amount of time, police will try to deport refugees who have been participating in that hearing.

## Which consequences might happen to you if you go to the hearing, if you keep silent or if you refuse to take part in the hearing?

Due to the obligation to cooperate, refugees are obligated to take part in such hearings. If you refuse to go to the hearing or remain silent while the hearing, you have to face serious consequences and penalties such as reductions of your social welfare or an obligation to stay in a certain village/ federal state ("Residenzpflicht"). However, these sanctions were often given only for a limited period of time and afterwards many of the refugees went back to their old status. Because of these sanctions, please contact a lawyer. If you decide to keep silent during the hearing, it can be interpreted as agreement anyway. For refugees this means that the strategy of remaining silent during the hearing is not a secure way to prevent the deportation. Police might pick you up by force to a second hearing if you refuse to take part in the first deportation hearing. Sometimes there are possibilities to avoid troubles for non-cooperation, for example if you can present a medical certificate that proves that you are suffering from an illness which is so severe that you cannot participate in a hearing on that day.

Many refugees who refused attending a deportation hearing were able to stop their own deportation successfully and to win time to find alternative solutions for their own situation. Contact a lawyer or supporting group immediately before and after the hearing!

### **EXAMPLE LETTER OF AUSLÄNDERBEHÖRDE** (excerpt)

Some refugees get a letter from Ausländerbehörde which looks like that below.

The Ausländerbehörde calls the deportation hearing "Sammelvorführung" (collective arraignment).

The date for the deportation hearing is given. If a time is fixed, the Ausländerbehörde writes the time for picking up refugees in their camps or flats with a bus.

The place of the deportation hearing is "Maritim Halle" refugee camp. This already indicates that the hearing is not the regular hearing for your asylum application in Halberstadt! Also, your individual asylum aplication would not be organised as collective arraignment.

The Ausländerbehörde threatens refugees in the letter: Police might catch refugees on the date of the deportation hearing to bring them to the hearing with force.

Be aware: Some refugees do not get such a letter.

Die Vorführung findet am

### 29. September 2016, 12:00 Uhr

In der Landesaufnahmeeinrichtung "Maritim", Riebeckplatz 3, 06110 Halle (Saale) statt.

Die Fahrt wird mit einem Kleinbus unter Begleitung durch die Ausländerbehörde durchgeführt. Die <u>Abholung</u> erfolgt von den Wohnanschriften in <u>Wittenberg</u> und <u>Vockerode</u> (Straße der Jugend 21). Die genauen Abfahrtszeiten werden noch mitgeteilt.

Es wird ausdrücklich darauf hingewiesen, dass die unentschuldigte Nichtteilnahme an der Sammelvorführung einen Haftgrund darstellt und daher ggf. eine zwangsweise Vorführung vorzunehmen ist.

Die Vorzuführenden haben eigenständig für ausreichende Verpflegung (Nahrungsmittel und alkoholfreie Getränke) zu sorgen, da zum zeitlichen Ablauf der Vorführung keine Angaben gemacht werden können. Der Genuss von alkoholischen Getränken ist strikt zu unterlassen!