

# Flüchtlingsrat Hamburg e.V.

## Offenes Plenum für antirassistische Arbeit

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The Chairman  
Committee Against Torture  
c/o  
High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Office of the United Nations  
8 - 14 Avenue de la Paix  
1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

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### **Report to the United Nations Committee Against Torture; Forced Vomiting in Hamburg Police Custody**

Dear Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

as we have heard, during your next meeting in May 2004 you will be consulting on the Republic of Germany's third periodical report according to Article 19 of the agreement against torture and other cruel, inhuman or humiliating treatment of 10<sup>th</sup> December 1984.

We would like to inform you with the enclosed report about the systematic use of emetics in Hamburg police custody. Many Institutions and individuals have protested after a young African died in December 2001, after forcibly been given emetics.

Among other points made at the Convention of German Doctors was, under reference to the UN-Resolution from 18<sup>th</sup> December 1982, when they clearly stated that the forcible administration of emetics does not comply with medical ethics.

All these protests haven't managed to persuade the authorities to reconsider their position. To the contrary, since the death nearly three hundred people have been forced to vomit while in police custody.

We therefore request you to study our report under the aspect of an offence against Article 1 of the agreement and to consider this report in your consultations.

On behalf of the Refugees Council Hamburg