## Dear editor,

The authors of this paper are no native English speakers, but most of the authors are fluent in English (written and spoken language) due to a long academic career path with English as one of the main languages being used on daily basis in writing and teaching activities. Most authors worked also for several years in English speaking countries.

We therefore do not have the habit at the Institute of Tropical Medicine to involve external services to rework/edit our scientific papers.

We hope that this declaration can replace the required certificate for language editing.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

On behalf of all authors,

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