Rio de Janeiro, August 8th 2016

Dra. Natalie Ollifiers

Editor-in-Chief, *Oecologia Austral*

Dear Dr. Ollifiers,

We would like to submit a manuscript entitled “”*,* by Caryne Braga, João A. Oliveira and Rui Cerqueira, to be considered for publication in *Oecologia Austral* as a Review.

In this manuscript we present a review of Metacommunity theory and concepts. The theoretical framework of metacommunity approach has developed fast in the last years, making it difficult to researchers that do not work directly on this subject to keep updated. The development in this area tends to be slower in Lusophony countries, since publications are almost all in English, and there are not even names to refer to the concepts in most cases. To address these concerns, we wrote a paper in Portuguese reviewing the theory and proposing a standardization of Portuguese terms to refer the concepts. We believe that this work can be an incentive to studies on metacommunities in Lusophone countries and to the development of the theory in general.

The manuscript file has 22 pages: 17 pages of text (including references), 2 pages with 1 table, and 3 pages with 3 figures and legends. This manuscript has not been published or accepted for publication, nor is under consideration for publication elsewhere, either in whole or substantial part. All authors agree on the content and were properly named on this submission.

The indications for possible reviewers are:

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We hope that this manuscript can be considered for publication in *Oecologia Austral*. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Caryne Braga, João A. Oliveira and Rui Cerqueira