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HOW THE RIO SCALE SHOULD BE IMPROVED

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A paper was presented at the 51st International Astronautical Congress in Rio de Janeiro to introduce a numerical method of characterizing the potential significance of any announcement of discovery of extraterrestrial intelligence. The wide-ranging discussion following this presentation raised challenging ideas for the improvement of the so-called Rio Scale. The present paper intends to summarize the discussion and the probable effects of the proposed corrections with special emphasis on the physical background of some possible parameters characterizing any ETI discovery. Some improvements to the first version of the Rio Scale are suggested in order to make the method more accurate and usable.