

UN group to pick global emergency number

December 12 2012

(AP)—Negotiators at a conference on U.N. telecommunications regulations say they've found one bit of common ground—how to call for help.

Envoys from 193 nations will decide between 911 or 112 as a standard global emergency number for new generations of mobile phones and other devices.

Wednesday's announcement marks a rare show of consensus at the <u>International Telecommunications Union</u> meeting in <u>Dubai</u>, where delegates remain deeply divided over whether to endorse greater government sway over the Internet.

A U.S.-led bloc fears it could be used by nations to justify greater Net restrictions. Others such as China, Russia and Gulf Arab states are pushing for acknowledgement that governments have a key stake in Internet affairs.

Both sides are engaged in intense lobbying before the meeting wraps up on Friday.

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Citation: UN group to pick global emergency number (2012, December 12) retrieved 26 April 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2012-12-group-global-emergency.html



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