

Short biography of **Hiroshi Kawamura**

Hiroshi Kawamura is the President of the DAISY Consortium. After 5 years of his terms of the Chair of the Section of Libraries for the Blind/IFLA, he founded the DAISY Consortium in 1996. Throughout the WSIS process, he has been serving as WSIS Disability Caucus Focal Point to coordinate the *Global Forum on Disability in the Information Society* in Geneva and Tunis. In the implementation process of the WSIS Plan of Actions, he coordinated the International Conference on Tsunami Disaster Preparedness of Persons with Disabilities in Phuket 2007 and the Workshop on Accessibility Guidelines and Standards for Persons with Disabilities at IGF in Rio 2007. Recently, he lead an international research team on disaster preparedness of persons with disabilities and developed extension of DAISY to support persons with autism as well as psychiatric disabilities. He is also active to bridge the North and South gap in particular tackling global issues in the South such as HIV/AIDS by knowledge sharing in local languages supported by DAISY.