



## **The Knowledge Economy Approach for the Social Inclusion of People with Disabilities: CETI-D, an e-Governance Good Practice in Brazil**

**Hosted by:** Danilo Piaggese, Managing Director, FRA

**Date:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011

**Time:** 2:00pm EDT

This symposium will discuss the application of the concept and instruments of the “knowledge economy” to the development of a Center of Excellence for Technology and Innovation in Favor of Persons with Disabilities (CETID) in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Which the government of Sao Paulo, Brazil, is implementing as part of its social inclusion agenda. The intention of the Government is to create a social inclusion model that would allow people with disabilities to become active and valuable members of society through their participation in the generation of knowledge-based products and services. This would allow people with disabilities to use technology to increase their contribution to the State’s economy and help make Sao Palo more competitive in the global marketplace.

Through this example, the Symposium will address how the Knowledge Economy is moving towards a more globally connected and expertise-oriented system where skills, expertise, and intellectual property will be almost more important than the traditional resource base of a given country, and how it can also contribute to the social inclusion of vulnerable groups.

**Danilo Piaggese** is Managing Director of the Fondazione Rosselli Americas (FRA) and a member of Fondazione Rosselli’s Board. FRA focuses on Knowledge Society, ICT, and innovation for development. Until 2009, he was Knowledge Economy Coordinator in the Vice Presidency of the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) in Washington D.C., and Chief of the Information and Communication Technology for Development Division (ICT4DEV) at the same institution, from 1999 to 2007. While at IADB, he was the alternate of the Bank’s President in the Steering Committee of the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID); after leaving the Bank, he remained a member of its Strategic Council. Mr. Piaggese is also the lead editor of the IGI book, **Global Strategy and Practice of E-Governance: Examples from around the World** (2011).