Montaje Expo Milán 2015
Expo Milano 2015 in Construction

International exhibitions are true laboratories of contemporary architecture where possibilities often difficult to implement in other contexts are tested. Today, this condition is exacerbated by the circulation, in different media, of the images of these pavilions that aspire not only to represent their countries but also to signal possible avenues for the future of architecture. However, we must ask, what is the real future of all these buildings? We just need to remember that immediately after the Shanghai Expo in 2010, 49 of the 54 national
pavilions were demolished or dismantled, showing that these architectures designed to portray the world’s future end up lasting even less than their pictures. On this occasion, the Italian photographer Andrea Ferro presents us with his photographs of the construction process of the Expo Milano 2015; they show us the recent past of these pavilions whose pictures now circulate the world’s press, addressing as well the question about the future of these temporary but not demountable architectures. ARQ

2 Descarga de materiales en las obras del pabellón de Bélgica / Unloading materials for the construction of Belgium pavilion. © Andrea Ferro

3 Pabellón de Costa De Marfil, Camerún, Cuba, Gabón, Ghana, Sao Tomé y Príncipe / Pavilion of Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Cuba, Gabon, Ghana, Sao Tome and Príncipe. © Andrea Ferro

4 Pabellones de Kazajistán (izquierda) y Emiratos Árabes Unidos (derecha) / Pavilions of Kazakhstan (left) and UAE (right). © Andrea Ferro

5 Pabellón de Laos, Bangladesh y Sierra Leona; y atrás, las columnas del pabellón de Vietnam / Pavilion of Laos, Bangladesh and Sierra Leone; and behind, the columns of Vietnam pavilion. © Andrea Ferro

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