

# Angola is Working

In spite of Pretoria's undeclared war  
 six hundred thousand displaced  
 fifty thousand disabled  
 more than 12-billion US dollars worth of damage

ANGOLA IS WORKING!

Mango trees full green necklace the land  
 And  
 Flower petals sunlit gleam  
 Transparent tangerine

ANGOLA IS WORKING!

Fish and lobsters fill the ocean  
 And  
 Crabs too numerous to mention  
 Sit on sea-wet rocks  
 Outside my hotel's door

ANGOLA IS WORKING!

I saw her muddy Luchimo electrify the north  
 And  
 Diamonds sparkling emerged  
 From her rivers floors

ANGOLA IS WORKING!

I heard her morning sounds  
 Motorbikes  
 Diesel trucks  
 Offshore oil drills  
 Workers' voices  
 Laughter —  
 Children on their way to school

ANGOLA IS WORKING!

Hear me,  
 In spite of Pretoria's undeclared war  
 Six hundred thousand displaced  
 Fifty thousand disabled  
 More than 12-billion US dollars worth of damage

ANGOLA IS WORKING!

It is  
 As the Poet said  
 Life making new  
 It is flowering!

*Melba Kgositsile*

*Luanda, People's Republic of Angola  
 October 1986*