linaro™

Arm Solutions at Lightspeed

Maintenance WG

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Problems

- Open source projects are underfunded and maintainers are overworked. This leads to
  - Worse code quality that's also harder to maintain
  - Eventual abandonment
  - Increasing security gaps
- It gets even worse with AI, since the number of patches and security reports has increased by a lot.
- Even if the AI report is false, it still requires effort to analyze
- Bounty programs only award the discovery not the fixes, disclosures etc

Linaro evolution

- Linaro used to guarantee and fund a lot of the maintenance efforts
- With the recent changes this might change
- Linaro is still committed to fund the maintenance efforts internally
- But there is a budget dedicated to this, which might not be sufficient
    - E.g ACK patches instead of doing a thorough review

Proposal

- Agree and setup on a maintenance fund that would allow maintainers to continue uninterrupted
- Only target core common areas of interest

QEMU orphaned subsystems

We only care about the core maintenance

The most used subsystems that are currently either unmaintained or maintained as best-effort are

- USB
- ACPI
- fw_cfg
- Usermode emulation

CI Coverage

- Most CI coverage from x86 GitLab runners
- The QEMU project also has donated cloud credits (AWS/Azure)
- Baremetal Hosts - important for VMM testing
  - Linaro hosts aarch64.ci.qemu.org (ARM Ampere with KVM)
  - OSOUL hosts ppc.ci.qemu.org
  - IBM hosts s390x.ci.qemu.org (Linux with KVM)
- Notable Gaps
  - MacOS HVF (Cirrus closed down, limited GitLab support for TCG)
  - FreeBSD (Cirrus closed down)
  - Windows (WHPX/HyperV)

Other projects

- rust-vmm
- Virtio-gpu
  - virglrenderer (used by both QEMU and rust-vmm virtio-gpu backends)
- Anything else?