Making it easier for distros to package kernel source

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Every distro has to package the kernel tree using their own unique package files. Some parts of the process are built-in to the kernel source and are easy: build, install, and headers. Some parts are not: configs, devel package, userspace tools package, tests, distro versioning, changelogs, custom patches, etc.

This discussion revolves around some of the issues and difficulties a distro maintainer faces when packaging the kernel source code. What changes can we agree to push upstream to make our lives easier.

Further, discuss possibilities of plugging in distro packaging into the kernel source tree (through external means or internal hooks). This allows developers to quickly build (from a common devel env) a particular distro-like kernel for proper testing.

Sample topics include:
* config maintainence for distros
* top-level Makefile hooks for distros
* make devel_install -like command
* distro versioning

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